

Hafa Adai!

Supreme Court urged to expedite decision on Ogumoro's petition.

» PAGE 2

Pistang Pinoy 2015 draws huge crowd.

» PAGE 3

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXV, Issue No. 118

www.saipantribune.com

TUESDAY JUNE 16, 2015

www.facebook.com/saipantribune

75¢

'Govt not doing everything for tourism'



By JAYSON CAMACHO
Jayson_Camacho@Saipantribune.Com
REPORTER

Almost three weeks after Asiana Airlines cut its two daily flights to just one, the Hotel Association of Northern Mariana Islands is not convinced that the government is doing everything it can to help the CNMI's tourism industry, which is currently the Commonwealth's only economic driver.

See HANMI on Page 4

As the sun slips below the horizon, this floating platform decorated with plants is an added attraction to the Saipan lagoon for tourists and joggers. Hotel Association of Northern Mariana Islands said it doesn't believe the government is doing everything to help the tourism industry following the reduction of flights from legacy airlines such as Asiana Airlines and Delta Air Lines.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

FBI special agent: A lot of items seized from Ada couple's house

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Federal Bureau of Investigation special agent Haejun Park testified yesterday in federal court about a lot of documents and items, including "expensive" handbags, they found and seized during a search at the residence of Leyda and Melvin Ada on Sept. 25, 2012.

Park also testified that

among the items found during the search was \$4,000 cash "hidden" in a basket filled with lingerie.

» Among them 'expensive' handbags, \$4,000 cash 'hidden' in lingerie basket

After Park, the prosecution called to the witness stand Internal Revenue Service Criminal

Investigation special agent Todd Peterson, who served as the leader of a team that searched the Ada couple's business, Island Trendz, located in Gara-

See FBI on Page 4

OPA says Retirement Fund records 'accurate'

By JOEL PINAROC
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund's financial records are "accurate and fairly presented," a report from the Office of the Public

Auditor said.

The OPA report also said the NMIRF "received a clean opinion on its financial statements for fiscal year 2013."

The report, however, said that the NMIRF "did not com-

ply with certain laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements which may affect its financial records."

"This is the third consecutive year that NMIRF has received a clean opinion on its financial

statements, but did not comply with certain applicable requirements," the OPA said.

The OPA explained that audit findings generally occur when an auditor discovers weakness-

See OPA on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

There are many people with theories about what happened to Amelia Earhart.

» PAGE 14



NATION

The two killers who cut their way out of a maximum-security prison apparently used tools routinely stored there by contractors.

» PAGE 16



WORLD

Thousands of Syrians cut through a border fence and crossed over into Turkey on Sunday.

» PAGE 18



SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.



GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com



DAD'S DAY Giveaway

EVENT ENDS
JUNE 19

One Lucky Dad Will Get
Barbeque Grill
Bud Beach Chair
Bud Gears
Bud Drinks

Local

Court urged to expedite decision on Ogumoro's petition

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman has urged the CNMI Supreme Court to expedite the issuance of a decision regarding the petition of former Department of Public Safety deputy commissioner Ambrosio T. Ogumoro to restrain him from presiding over Ogumoro's pending criminal case.

Wiseman said Ogumoro's petition has been pending in the CNMI Supreme Court for close to seven months now.

"Extended delay to trial may infringe on the defendant's right to speedy trial under the

Sixth Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 4(d) of the Commonwealth Constitution," said the judge in his amicus curiae participant's request filed on Friday.

In his request, Wiseman asked the high court to exercise its prerogative to issue an order without oral argument pursuant to CNMI Supreme Court Rules.

An amicus curiae ("friend of the court") is an entity who is not a party to the case.

Wiseman said a swift resolution to this matter is firmly with-



Wiseman

in the public's strong interest in ensuring a speedy trial, especially when it involves the criminal prosecution of a public official.

The Office of the Public Auditor charged Ogumoro with 15 criminal offenses for his role in, among other things, shielding then-attorney general Edward Buckingham from being served with penal summons in August 2012.

On Nov. 13, 2014, Ogumoro and the government filed a joint motion to stay all Superior Court proceedings in Ogumoro's criminal felony

prosecution until resolution of Ogumoro's petition for writ of mandamus/prohibition.

On Nov. 17, 2014, the Supreme Court granted the stay and set the petition for oral argument on Sept. 3, 2015 at 2pm.

Upon the high court's invitation, Wiseman filed an amicus brief on Nov. 28, 2014.

In his amicus brief, Wiseman asked the high court to deny Ogumoro's petition. The judge asserted, among other things, that Ogumoro "distorts the law, contorts the facts, and makes giant leaps" in the hopes that the high court will grant him extraordinary relief.

In his request to accelerate the

currently set process, Wiseman cited that the high court in the Commonwealth versus Superior Court's case, held that there is a "strong interest in moving criminal proceedings without an unnecessary delay."

Wiseman said the high court ruled that this interest is especially pronounced for criminal prosecution of public officials, "in whom the public entrusted its faith and confidence..."

Wiseman noted that in the Commonwealth versus Superior Court case, the high court

issued an order less than two months after a trial court's order was challenged.

The judge said the high court may fulfill the standards set in its ruling in the Commonwealth versus Superior Court by issuing a decision on the litigants' briefs—without oral argument.

Ogumoro has another pending criminal case, charging him with misconduct in public office, theft by unlawful taking or disposition, and removal of government property. He pleaded not guilty to the charges.

» Wiseman says petition has been pending in high court for close to 7 months now

Xu leads 352 graduates from Hopwood

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Hopwood Junior High School promoted about 352 eighth graders in a ceremony yesterday.

The class of 2015's valedictorian was Karen Hou Yin Xu. Salutatorian was Natalie Medrano Montano, while the Principal's Leadership Award went to Joshalynn Duenas Flores.

In her speech, Xu said her last two years at the school have been "very emotional."

"I experienced a lot of stress but I also experienced a lot of great times," she said.

But, she said, whenever she got upset, she would always have friends and family by her side.

She told the crowd that she eventually came to realize that this was one of her "keys to success," getting advice and confidence from people.

"Those people could be your peers, parents, teachers—pretty much anyone you can trust. They help you build motivation and encourage you to do better."

"With the mindset of 'I can do anything,' you'd naturally



DENNIS B. CHAN

The top three students of Hopwood Junior High School pose with education leaders and House representatives yesterday during their promotion ceremony on the school campus. In the first row, from left, are valedictorian Karen Xu, Principal's Leadership awardee Joshalynn Flores, and salutatorian Natalie Montano.

try harder. That was how I got where I am today," Xu said.

School principal Jonas Bar-

cinas urged students to strive for their dreams, in his message to students.

"Our graduates, this is not the end, but another beginning," he said.

Military set to meet with lawmakers

By **JOEL PINAROC**
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Members of the U.S. military are set to meet with legislators on Capitol Hill this Thursday.

In a memorandum, Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) said the House Committee on Federal and Foreign Relations, which he chairs, will meet with Robert M. Scher, Department of Defense assistant secretary for strategy, plans, and capabilities.

According to the memorandum, the meeting will allow the committee members to raise concerns.

Demapan confirmed the meeting, but said there is no specific agenda "at this time."

"There is no specific agenda at this time. I am only aware that Assistant Secretary Scher will be on island to meet with Governor [Eloy S.] Inos and other officials. As a result, the Joint Region Marianas office contacted my office to arrange a visit to the legislature as well," Demapan said.

"I will ask the committee and the rest of the members to prepare any concerns regarding ongoing military plans so that we can present them to the Assistant Secretary."

EIS consultant

The consultant to review a draft



Demapan

environmental impact statement for proposed military activities in the CNMI has, meanwhile, signed the contract for the service.

The Inos administration last week confirmed the selection of a consultant to handle a third-party review of a draft EIS on military activities on Tinian and Pagan.

Press secretary Ivan Blanco said that Dentons, a global law firm, is the consultant selected to review thousands of pages of draft EIS documents on proposed live-fire training.

Blanco said the consultant

has submitted and signed the contract for the service. The Office of Procurement and Supply has the contract. "The ball is now with the government," Blanco said, adding that contract price and other details will also be made public "soon."

It was reported that Dentons had submitted a joint application for environmental impact consultant job with Environmental Science Associates, or ESA, an environmental science and planning firm.

Notably, Dentons assisted the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Guam Preservation Trust in suing the U.S. Department of Defense to prevent the building of live-fire range complexes on Pagat, an ancient Chamorro village in Guam.



KAREN HOU YIN XU
Valedictorian

"Don't forget your Hilitai [school mascot] Spirit and take it wherever you go in your educational endeavors. As you strive to achieve your dreams, don't forget the people around you who have helped make a profound im-



NATALIE MEDRANO MONTANO
Salutatorian

pact in your life. Take the time say thank you and give them a hug," he said.

Lawmakers, education officials, and a large crowd of parents, family, and friends attended the ceremony yesterday on the school campus.

Minority lawmakers say proposed land trustees should be elected

A proposed legislation abolishing the Department of Public Lands and replacing it with a corporate entity with a board of trustees will work if the members of the trustees are elected.

This is the opinion shared by Rep. Ramon A. Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan) and Rep. Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan), who are both members of the House minority bloc.

The lawmakers believe that having a board of trustees that is appointed may not work as effectively as a board of trustees which has elected members.

According to them, there might not be that big of a change if appointed members will sit on the board of trustees.

Yumul said he will support the proposed bill if the board of trustees are to be elected. He said he has not yet seen the bill and will reserve further comments until after he reads it.

The bill was pre-filed by Rep. Felicidad Ogumuro (R-Saipan), a member of the majority bloc.

According to Ogumuro's bill, the members of the board of trustees will be appointed. "Like in the previous instances, the Governor has the authority

to appoint the members," Ogumuro said.

She said there was no mention of having an "elected" board on the proposed board of trustees.

Last Friday, Ogumuro said she pre-filed a bill seeking to abolish the DPL and establishing in its place the Marianas Lands Corp. with a board of trustees.

Ogumuro said the board of trustees "will manage and control the public lands in the Commonwealth, which collectively belong to persons of Northern Marianas descent, pursuant to Section 1 of Article XI of the Northern Mariana Islands Constitution."

Ogumuro said "since its inception, DPL has been operating and making independent decisions directly related to the management and disposition of public lands—such as public land leases and village homestead development—without the presence, input, advice of, or voting by the Public Lands Advisory Board as required by Public Law 15-2." (Joel Pinaroc)

Pistang Pinoy 2015 draws huge crowd



FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

Pistang Pinoy 2015's main event included a Pinoy production number entitled "Shine Pilipinas Shine" which was directed by Sharmaine Casquero.

By **FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA**
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A huge crowd of Filipinos gathered together to have fun and celebrate Philippine Independence Day during this year's Pistang Pinoy.

Non-stop activities and performances were staged at the Marianas Business Plaza the whole day of Sunday from 9am to 10pm.

United Filipino Organizations president Bong Malasarte said he already expected the huge crowd especially because the venue for this year is better compared to last year.

"Preparations were hard but it was worth it," Malasarte said, "It's about entertainment and making the people happy."

The formal start of the program happened around lunchtime with Philippine Honorary Consul Eli Arago and Malasarte giving inspirational and welcome speeches after the national anthem was sung.

"Let unity start with our families and big changes will happen to our country. Although we don't realize it, families are really important," Arago said. "We need to be united, to always do the right thing, and we will achieve change."

"I thank all our *kababayans* who are present here today. I also want to thank all those who volunteered to help us make this event a successful one," Malasarte said.

Around 7pm, the main events of the day commenced with a Pinoy production number entitled "Shine Pilipinas Shine" which was directed by Sharmaine Casquero. Included in the number are members of Uncle Ben's Studio, Saipan Music & Dance, *Man'amko* Queens 2014 and 2015 Terry Soroza and Minerva Maghanoy, and the "Your Face Sounds Familiar" singing and impersonating contest contenders.

After that, the most awaited competition began with 16 con-

testants all dressed up and mimicking their chosen icons in the music industry.

First place winner was Tammy Torres who acted like Diana Ross and won \$500 cash. In second and third place were Casquero as Lady Gaga and Jennifer Villanueva as Anne Wilson, winning \$300 and \$200, respectively.

Other contestants impersonated artists such as Madonna, Whitney Houston, Celine Dion, Tina Turner as well as Pinoy singers like Zsa Zsa Padilla and KC Tandingan. Nemie Cayao impersonated Freddie Aguilar who sang "Bayan Ko," a timely piece for the event.

Hapi Canazares Gabriel entertained the crowd as the master of ceremonies during the contest.

Other individuals and groups who performed at the day-long event were Justin Tubera,

Donnarose & DJ Santiago, Juliet Inocencio and Monique Leo, Mixed Jam band, Umang Glee Club, Out of the Ordinary band, BaRaHa band, High Pitch Band, Donato Santiago, Lawrence Tubera, Erica Faye Tubera, Mikaella Cunanan, Mica Ella Sune, Bernice Shane Sabino, Gio Sagana, Hopwood Full 4th Band, Cornerstone Church performing group, Saipan Ballroom dance teams, and Rhythm & Harmony.

Booths of food and non-food items were also around the venue. Games were also held at the event as well as raffle draws. Prizes include shirts, Let's Go 4X4 rides, hotel stays, and buffet and other gift certificates. Among the sponsors were IT&E, LBC, TSL Foundation, SM Mart, Alter City, Aqua Resort Club, Mariana Resort & Spa, and Hyatt Regency Saipan.

DAD'S DAY Giveaway

EVENT ENDS JUNE 19

One Lucky Dad Will Get

Barbeque Grill • Bud Beach Chair
Bud Gears • Bud Drinks

Courtesy of MARPAC

How to Enter:
Get an entry with every new prepaid & postpaid activation.

Want more chances?
Just text DAD to 2946**

**Each text message will be charged 25¢. Winner will be drawn June 19th, 2015

Samsung Galaxy S6 Edge
\$429*

Samsung Galaxy S6
\$349*

Samsung Galaxy J1
FREE
12-Month Term
\$175
Prepaid w/ \$10 Load

Samsung Note 4
\$399*

The Best Dads Deserve
The Island's ONLY 4G Experience

682-4ITE (4483) IT&E CNMI www.ite.net

* Terms & conditions apply. Pricing based on 2-year term. Offers end June 19, 2015. See stores for details.

Saipan International School

SIS is Fully Accredited by the Western Association of School and Colleges

Our mission is to help each child reach his or her full potential by providing a positive environment that fosters academic, emotional, and social growth.

OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

SIS Offers:

- Small Class Sizes in K4-G12
- Outstanding Academic Programs in English, Math, Science and Social Studies
- Advanced Placement (AP) Courses for High School Students
- Individualized Reading Programs
- Special Classes in Music, Art, Mandarin, Spanish and Physical Education
- Qualified and Experienced Teachers
- Financial Aid Available for Grade 1-5

SIS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities.

Website: sissaipan.com
E-mail: tim.s.bray@gmail.com
Tel: 288-9660

Construction on the way for Star Marianas facility

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Construction appears to be on-going for a light commuter facility at the Guam airport for Star Marianas Air's use, according to the inter-island carrier's president Shaun Christian.

The Guam International Airport Authority issued a notice to proceed in April for contractors to renovate this facility, also known as the "Yellow Cargo Bay."

This after plans for an interim facility were dropped as GIAA found them not cost-effective.

Christian said yesterday that

he hasn't received any correspondence from GIAA since May 11 when they confirmed receipt of his email identifying which of the planned offices Star Marianas preferred.

"I've heard from our pilots flying cargo into Guam that construction is going on and that it

appears as though progress is being made for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act ingress and egress issues, but haven't seen any pictures to confirm," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

He said he does not yet have any specific information on a planned Customs processing area

and if/when Guam Customs intends to staff the location.

Right now, Star Marinas only flies cargo into Guam. They have been trying to get self-access to the Guam airport for the past couple of years. In March, Star Marianas suspended all passenger charters to Guam due to "continued lack of a facility" to operate and self-handle their

aircraft, despite talks and plans between them and Guam airport during the previous months.

They also suspended charter flights due to new ground-handling terms introduced by GIAA that Christian said would have driven the cost of escorting passengers from their plane to "nearly double" from the \$40 per passenger they were paying out.

HANMI: Occupancy rate at 82 pct in May

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands reported 81.92 percent occupancy among 11 member hotels for May 2015, an 8-percent increase compared to May 2014.

HANMI said 58,487 of 71,393 available room nights sold in May 2015, compared to 52,900 of 71,393 of available room nights sold over the same period last year. Room

rates were \$123.88 during the month, compared to \$114.39 last May.

"Hotel occupancy is higher, room rates are higher. This is all goods news for the North-

ern Marianas economy," said HANMI chair Gloria Cavanagh. "The formula works. We must keep funding the Marianas Visitors Authority adequately for promotions, keep our market diversification and shore up weaker markets like Japan, keep investing in destination enhancement, and keep existing businesses in business while we pursue new opportunities."

So far this calendar year, hotel occupancy is at an average 86.60 percent, 2 percent higher than last year. Additionally, average room rates have increased by 7 percent compared to the same period last fiscal year.

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, celebrating its 30th Anniversary this year, was established in 1985 as a professional forum for the hospitality industry of the NMI. (HANMI)

SDA graduates 29 K5 and eight grade students

Seventh Day Adventist School would like to congratulate their K5 and eighth grade student graduates.

SDA's acknowledged their student's achievements with a graduation for kindergarten on June 9. SDA's eighth grade graduation was on the following day, June 10. Both were held at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center

grade class is Langting Sizemore. Salutatorian is Erin Yoon and Quincy Chinen earned "Academic Honorable Mention."



Langting Sizemore
Valedictorian

Rounding out the rest of the eighth grade class were, Angelina Aldan, En Ming Caddac, Maxine Lopez, Cheyanne Manuel, Jushua Qui, and Wataru Tajima.

SDA also promoted about 20 kindergarteners. They are

Wayne Dominic Año, Juan Rolando Bañacia, Marlin Chang, Ellie Cho, Nakhee Choi, D'Artagnan Moya Enerio, Jenelle Princess Falaminiano, Jenessa Lynn Gebhard, Montrey Takawo Germance, Michelle Huang, David Shah Khadka, Kiwon Lee, Nicole Angela Pangilinan, Si Woo Park, Pete Sheldon Phair, Tristan Josef Sablan, Kelly Hope Jin Selkor, Gwanhun Son, Owen Timothy Wood, and Sharon Zang. (Dennis B. Chan)

HANMI

From Page 1

"Of course HANMI is concerned about the decrease of flights of Asiana that started May 28. We understand this to be an assets redistribution issue. We are especially concerned of the reduction of flights from Delta Air Lines at the end of the year," HANMI president Gloria Cavanagh said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

This comes after Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio said that Asiana's decision to reduce flights to the CNMI to only once a day is projected to hamstring the CNMI tourism industry, and will likely cost the local economy \$55 million.

For the balance of the fiscal year, the Korea market will be looking at a reduction of 31,250 seats to the CNMI from May 28 to the end of September. This is a decrease of 26,724 persons.

MVA's projected revenue for the tourism industry was \$1.22 billion as of March 2015. With the loss of \$55 million, this will go down to \$1.17 billion, a 4.6-percent reduction.

Despite Asiana Airlines and MVA stating earlier that CNMI's largest source market—Korea—is not dwindling, the unexpected outbreak of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome in South Korea recently might become another factor that may possibly lower travel of Korean tourist to the CNMI.

"With the decrease of flights from Asiana and now MERS, we are expecting slightly lower occupancy rates. We also have to remember that a large

number of our Chinese visitors transit through Incheon Airport [Korea] and take both Asiana as well as Jeju Air," said Cavanagh, who is the general manager of Mariana Resort & Spa.

According to the MVA, arrivals from Korea went up 79 percent in May to 16,237 visitors. However, this only data from May and MVA's data for June is expected next month.

Delta's pullout this winter

The CNMI has three large source markets—China, Korea, and Japan. Russia's market fell to 128 arrivals as of May, while Japan decreased by 9 percent last month.

The Japan market is expected to go down further, as Delta Air Lines will reduce its flights to Saipan this winter.

Delta's corporate communications office earlier stated that six of its B747-400s will be retired by the end of 2015, and the overall seat capacity next year will be reduced and frequencies on flights to Honolulu and Saipan will be cut during the winter due to continued devaluation of the yen and average fare decline with lower fuel surcharge.

MVA and other tourism stakeholders are aware of this, and are "trying" to pick the market back up.

"Our once safe market, Japan, is not in crisis anymore but in critical condition. We believed that MVA would be throwing all available resources to try to save this market, but we are not convinced that everything that can be done is being done," Cavanagh said.

Cavanagh also said that when the CNMI starts losing seats

from legacy airlines, it leaves an ominous business climate.

"We are becoming a destination that is reliant on charter flights and low-cost airlines. What does that say about our destination?" Cavanagh said.

China safe or not?

Last November, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) welcomed the signing of reciprocal visa validity arrangement that extends visas from Chinese visitors to the U.S. for up to 10 years and vice versa for American tourists visiting China.

However, since 2009, tourists from China have been allowed to visit the CNMI without a U.S. visa pursuant to the Department of Homeland Security use of parole authority.

DHS could possibly take this away leaving harder challenges for Chinese tourist entering the CNMI, because many of those who come to Saipan solely for birth tourism do so by boarding a signatory airline such as Asiana and not through charter tour flights.

"Although some would call it naïve to speak about the potential danger of losing the visa waiver, as the major stakeholders of this economy, we must always look at this possibility," Cavanagh said.

New investors

The CNMI is also expecting new developments from Best Sunshine Int. Ltd., Honest Profit, the opening of Kensington Hotel [former Palms Resort], including other hotels, despite another possible decline on tourism.

Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Alex Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* that what can't be resolved is the overall

effect of 10,000 rooms in the Commonwealth.

Sablan said that CNMI has to think about how many people do 80 percent occupancy and 10,000 rooms come to?

Sablan said, a worst-case scenario would be that if 10,000 rooms is multiplied by 365 days a year it would go up to 3,650,000 rooms with a 3.5 days average stay for visitors times two guests per room totaling to 2,085,714 tourists at near 100 capacity "but let's take the norm today at 80 percent capacity that's still 1,668,571 for the year."

Cavanagh said that their stats reported on April for average monthly occupancy this year was 87.86 percent. The occupancy rate on May of this year is at 82 percent, an 8-percent increase.

"Year to date the average occupancy rate is 83.65 percent with a year to date average room rate of \$119.26. For the same time last year, the occupancy rate was 73.67 percent with a year to date room rate of \$113.35. So far this week the overall average occupancy rate was about 81 percent on Monday," she said.

She also said that HANMI feels that they are being set aside in favor of prospective investors. "Will these prospective investors stay through times like after Japan Airline pulled out? Or will they leave scars in the CNMI like La Fiesta."

"Of course we want growth and support new investors, but the CNMI cannot ignore the contributions that our HANMI hotel members have given to them. Increases in the tourism economy just started less than three years ago after dismal occupancy rates since 1998," she said.

FBI

From Page 1

pan, on the same day that the couple's house was searched. Peterson is expected to continue his testimony when the jury trial of Leyda Ada will resume this morning, Tuesday.

Park testified that most of the documents that they retrieved during the search were found in the kitchen area.

Assistant U.S. attorney Ross Naughton showed numerous documents to Park, who identified them as the documents and items that they seized during the search.

The FBI special agent identified, among the documents and items, as the couple's several notebooks or journals; shopping list of equipment or materials for future renovation of a residence; CNMI tax returns for years 2006 to 2008; a Medicaid folder containing identification documents, 2009 tax return,

bank statements; a food stamp folder; Tuturam land records; documents found in a Nissan Rogue folder; documents for the sale of a 1975 Toyota Corolla; four loan documents; and documents for a 1991 pick-up truck; Bank of Guam deposit slips; and Worker Compensation papers.

Park testified that he took most of the photos of seized papers and items.

Handbags found were a Celine bag, Louis Vuitton wallet, Louis Vuitton cross-body bag; Celine leather bag, Givenchy black cloth wallet, Prada black cloth handbag, Louis Vuitton handbag, and Louis Vuitton brown/gold handbag.

Ada is accused of conspiring with her husband, Melvin, to perpetrate healthcare fraud exceeding \$1.7 million. She is on trial for conspiracy to commit money laundering, money laundering, and perjury. Melvin pleaded guilty and is waiting for his sentencing.

OPA

From Page 1

es in internal control, or non-compliance with requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements.

For fiscal year, the auditor cited NMIRF for one finding, which is a decrease from four findings in fiscal year 2012.

"These findings resulted from weaknesses in the procedures that allow management or employees to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a requirement of a federal program or misstatement of financial records on a timely basis," the report said.

Financial highlights

According to the OPA report, NMIRF net assets held in trust for pension benefits as of Sept. 30, 2013 and 2012 were \$132,299,337 and \$242,483,716, respectively, a decrease of \$110,184,379 or 45 percent from fiscal year 2012.

The report said the decline in net assets is due to draw down from investment to fund benefit and refund payments.

Total additions, as reflected in the Statements of Changes in Plan Net Assets Available for Benefits, were \$21,710,414 and \$60,945,899 for the years ended Sept. 30, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

Total additions decreased by \$39,235,485 or 64 percent compared to 2012, due primarily to the \$15,307,839 decrease in net investment income and \$23,333,891 decrease in contri-

butions.

Value of investments at market value declined from \$218,069,145 in 2012 to \$128,308,882 in 2013, primarily due to withdrawal from the investment portfolio to fund the benefit payments and refund of member contributions.

Total deductions, as reflected in the Statements of Changes in Plan Net Assets Available for Benefits, were \$131,894,794 and \$106,901,446 for the years ended Sept. 30, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

The 23-percent increase to \$24,993,344 in 2013 compared to 2012 is primarily due to the \$50,411,923 increase in refund offset by \$22,575,380 decrease in provision for uncollectible contributions.

As of Sept. 30, 2013, 2012, and 2011, the Fund's net assets available for pension benefits were \$132,299,337, \$242,483,716 and \$288,439,263, respectively, the report further said.

Cash and cash equivalents increased by \$21,339,024. This is from the draw down from investment to payoff refund for members who elected to withdraw their contribution from the Fund.

Receivables from employers and related unearned revenues increased by \$1,670,663 or a 23 percent increase. The CNMI government and autonomous agencies continue to contribute less than the actuarially determined rate. Investments decreased by \$89,765,263 due to the draw-downs authorized for the payment of refunds and benefits.

CHCC: MERS in Guam just a rumor

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rumors of the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome reaching Guam are false, according to Public Health and Hospital Preparedness Program director Warren Villagomez.

Instead what happened, according to the Guam Governor's Office, is that the Department of Homeland Security quarantined a Korean family because the father recently visited a hospital in South Korea where MERS patients were being treated.

The man and his family were eventually allowed to board back a flight to South Korea.

"We've just got a confirmation email from the special assistant of Homeland Security that the person in Guam that was in quarantined over the weekend has left Guam. They allowed the person to board back to South Korea and he didn't have MERS," Villagomez said.

"There are strong messages in Guam from the government that there is no MERS in Guam and none here in CNMI as well. After hearing about the quarantined individual in Guam we went ahead and published more posters out in the community and the health centers. This is to make sure that our health alert advisory messaging is out there alerting and we are urging them to please call us because the numbers are there and please read them," he added.

Villagomez advised the public to continue to exercise

proper hygiene because not doing so is one way of spreading MERS.

"We're still in good hands and safe here on the island. We are monitoring this daily if not by the hour. Centers for Disease Prevention and Control is doing whatever they can but we are also making sure that we don't let our guard down here in the CNMI," he said.

CHCC currently is working closely with DHS, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Marianas Visitors Authority, and Customs Border and Patrol to make sure those manning the seaports and airport are well informed about MERS.

CHCC chief executive officer Esther Muna said that the good thing about the CNMI is there is a lot of collaboration between agencies.

"We're able to have all the different agencies come together and make sure it doesn't affect our islands. We have four people on top [of this issue]—our epidemiologists, Villagomez, Dr. John Doyle [CHCC medical director] and Dr. Daniel Lamar [CHCC public health medical director]. It is something that we're taking advantage of and understand and be prepared," Muna said.

Villagomez said the past four days CHCC has been having conference calls with CDC out of Hawaii and Atlanta, Georgia to make sure that health officials there document the calls in the event that they need to trigger federal aid.

"They are well aware of our challenges and geographic difficulties," he said.

Muna said that CHCC is not only looking at CDC, but all resources such as Pacific Island Health Officers Association, Association of State and Territorial Officials, Secretar-

iat of the Pacific Community, and all information has been coming in.

Doyle said that the main concern is that majority of the CNMI's visitors arrive from

South Korea.

"That is one of the things we have been emphasizing to CDC and we're at a high possibility of exposure. You have to understand what this partic-

ular virus is," Doyle said.

World Health Organization released a statement clearing that the MERS virus in South Korea, which has killed 14 people and infected nearly 140, hasn't spread outside hospitals among the wider community or become easier to transmit between humans.

San Vicente mural finally unveiled

A mural depicting a picturesque beach and local flora and fauna has been unveiled on Monday on a stretch of a concrete wall along San Vicente.

Local officials led by Lt. Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres witnessed the unveiling, along with select students of San Vicente Elementary School.

The mural project was spearheaded by Rep. Joseph "Lee Pan" Guerrero (R-Saipan).

In his speech, Guerrero urged the students to protect the mural from "vandals" and keep it clean. He also encouraged the students to preserve the mural so that passersby can enjoy the work of art.

Guerrero, who heads the House Committee on Commerce and Tourism, earlier said the project is part of efforts to further beautify the CNMI.

The mural was designed and completed by local artist Luis Sablan Ogo. He originally is from Rota and now works for Island Apparel and considers Saipan his home.

Ogo is also a certified artist. Due to the rains, he said the

project was completed for one month. He said he "envisioned" the mural and after a presentation to lawmakers, the project was given the go-signal.

According to the artist, the

central theme was inspired by Lau Lau Bay as well as indigenous wildlife. He said he did not take pictures of the place, but relied instead on memory.

This is not the first project for

Ogo. Many years ago, he said he had painted similar huge murals also for the government. According to Ogo, one of his more recent works are murals for the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. He said the work was also commissioned by the government. (Joel Pinaroc)



JOEL PINAROC

A mural depicting Lau Lau Bay and indigenous wildlife has been unveiled along San Vicente. The project is part of ongoing efforts to further beautify the CNMI.

Alleged victim, 3 others testify in Taitano's trial

The prosecution yesterday called four witnesses, including the alleged 13-year-old victim, during the start of the jury trial in Superior Court of Hank Kenney Peredo Taitano, a man accused of raping the girl, causing her to become pregnant.

Assistant public defender Matthew Meyer, counsel for Taitano, is expected to continue his cross-examination on the girl when the trial resumes today, Tuesday, at 8:15am.

Assistant attorney general Shannon Folley presented the government's opening statements. Assistant attorney general Barbara Cepeda is assisting Folley at the trial.

The government called to the witness stand the mother of the girl, the girl's stepfather, police detective Therese Kintoki, and the alleged victim.

Last week, Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho issued an order that allows a North Carolina-based laboratory technician at a paternity testing facility, to

testify via Skype on the paternity test results of the baby.

According to court records, samples were secured from the infant soon after the birth, for use in a paternity test. The samples were then sent to LabCorp., the paternity testing facility in Burlington, North Carolina.

The CNMI government received the test results on May 26, 2015.

In December 2014, police arrested then-35-year-old tour bus driver Taitano, for allegedly raping the 13-year-old girl.

The girl's parents learned about the rape when they noticed that the girl's stomach was getting bigger.

During a checkup on Nov. 28, 2014, the doctor told the mother and her husband that the girl at that time was four months pregnant.

Taitano was charged with sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree. (Ferdie de la Torre)

HOT SUMMER SAVINGS!

Going on Now!

27,750 Miles

2012 HYUNDAI ELANTRA GLS

NOW \$12,995

20,100 Miles

2010 HYUNDAI ELANTRA GLS

NOW \$12,995

8,950 Miles

2014 HYUNDAI ELANTRA GLS

NOW \$15,995

27,550 Miles

2013 NISSAN ROGUE SV

NOW \$18,995

13,000 Miles

2010 HYUNDAI GENESIS GLS

NOW \$19,995

26,900 Miles

2012 HYUNDAI VERACRUZ GLS

NOW \$19,995

24,150 Miles

2011 MAZDA CX-9 TOURING

NOW \$20,995

(WE BUY CARS AND ACCEPT TRADE-INS PAID OFF OR NOT)

TRIPLE J MOTORS

Mon-Fri: 8am-6pm • Sat: 8am-5pm
Beach Road, Chalan LauLau
234-7133 / 234-3051
www.carssaipan.com

YOUR NADA CERTIFIED SALES TEAM. ASK FOR US BY NAME!

BEN MERCI FELIX

Like us on **facebook**

Triple J Motors, Saipan

**2012 Hyundai Elantra GLS, \$12,995 less 20%, 6.9% APR for 48 mos., \$248.46/mo. or \$115 per paycheck. Deferred \$11,926.08.

New owners of Marianas Express Lines introduced



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tan Holdings officials, including president Jerry Tan, celebrated with its new partner in Marianas Express Lines, Ltd. at a cocktail party held last June 5 at the Fiesta Resort & Spa.

By **FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA**
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A cocktail party was held to introduce to the community the new owner of Marianas Express Lines, Ltd.

Pacific International Lines, who took major shareholder status of MELL last March 10, is the new business partner of Tan Holdings.

PIL is the 18th largest shipping company in the world.

"With PIL, MELL is linked with the global network. MELL

is a regional carrier, and PIL is a global carrier and the people of the CNMI are now linked to the whole world. We can procure anything from the world, and PIL/MELL can bring them to CNMI, Guam, and Micronesia," Luen Thai Enterprise CEO and MELL vice chair Willie Tan said.

"We're very fortunate to have them on board," Joven Cruz, station manager for CTSI Logistics, Inc. said.

CTSI operates as MELL's agent in the Western Pacific

and other countries in Asia.

Tan noted that MELL is the only carrier that serves CNMI on a weekly basis and that it is "part of our economic support."

"It was only 18 short years ago that Mariana Express Lines became the first liner company to provide weekly shipping service to Guam. Our competitors thought we were crazy and predicted that MELL would be out of business within a year. Well, 18 years later, I am happy and proud to say that our com-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Luen Thai Enterprise CEO and MELL vice chair Willie Tan thanked Pacific International Lines for investing in MELL and being a part of the Luen Thai family.

petitors were wrong and we are still here today," Tan said.

He added that he is very pleased with MELL's new partnership.

"[The new owners] have assured me that PIL will back MELL's requirements and such service will be sustainable. I am very pleased with such partnership," he said.

Also present during the event last June 5 at the Hibiscus Hall of Fiesta Resort and Spa were PIL deputy managing director Chor Kee Tan, MELL general

manager Raymond Hew, Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan, and its executive vice president George Chiu.

"It's good for the community because they have a vast network," Cruz said. "We have more options; we have more access to several origins."

He added that the CNMI's business community will have other options in terms of where to outsource their products.

"It will lead to more diversity in terms of what we get. It may also be better in terms of cost if they can actually get a better pricing from a different source as opposed to their current source," he said.

"With efficiency, the goods should be cheaper eventually as business people can plan their inventory requirements," Tan added.

Customers were also invited to the event, which also served as a way to appreciate and thank them.

PIL bought the Au family's stake in MELL, gaining ownership in the business. Luen Thai Holdings Limited, of which CTSI Logistics is a subsidiary, is still a minority stakeholder of MELL.

In a prior press release by MELL, it said that PIL leadership assured the former's clients that it shall continue to operate under the same brand and regular business operations will not be affected.

MELL is a container line operator specializing in niche markets within the Asia-Pacific region including Micronesia, Guam, Saipan, Papua New Guinea, Malaysia, and Australia.

Prosecution calls 3 witnesses in trial of teacher accused of stealing copper wire

A jury trial began yesterday in the Superior Court of George Lieto Jr., a teacher accused with another man of burglarizing a store's generator room and stealing copper wire.

The prosecution called to the witness stand three witnesses—patrol officer David Rabauliman, the manager of New Kagman Market, and the owner of a surveillance camera.

The trial will resume today, Tuesday, at 8:30am. Associate Judge David A. Wiseman is presiding over the trial.

Assistant attorneys general

Graef Clayton and Chester Hinds are prosecuting the case. Attorney Matthew Holley is court-appointed counsel for Lieto.

Lieto is on trial for one count each of burglary and theft. Lieto's co-defendant, Terwik A. Ludwig, pleaded guilty last February and was slapped with a three-year prison term.

Police detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated in her report that while patrol officer Rabauliman was conducting a routine patrol along Cha Cha Road in Kagman on Oct. 26, 2014 at 9:47am,

he spotted Lieto and Ludwig loading copper wire into a car's trunk next to the generator room of New Kagman Market.

As Rabauliman made a turn into New Kagman Market, he saw Lieto enter the driver's side of a Mazda 3 car, while Terwik got into the vehicle's rear passenger side.

As the car was exiting the parking lot, Rabauliman blocked the exit. The officer got out of his patrol car and approached Lieto.

While Rabauliman was talking with Lieto, Terwik got down

and ran into a jungle south of Kagman Laundry located behind New Kagman Market.

The officer found in the car's trunk, two large rolls and two small roll bundles of copper wire that were stolen from the generator room of New Kagman Market.

Lieto was then arrested.

According to the storeowner, the stolen copper wire were back-up wires for the generator.

Pangelinan said they recovered the rolled wires with estimated total value of \$1,662.57. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

Fact-finding trip to SG on integrated resorts to be featured on Channel 14

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A fact-finding trip to familiarize Saipan residents with integrated resorts in Singapore will air on Channel 14.

The trip, which was expected to help residents learn and be familiar with the integrated resort industry that Best Sunshine Int., Ltd. is bringing to the CNMI, had participating local students and some members of the media take part in a five-day familiarization tour of Singapore's Resort World

Sentosa and Marina Bay Sands Hotel.

The videotaped tour will be broadcast over four episodes, with Saipan residents discussing and interacting with the residents of the city-state and the way integrated resorts appeal to them.

The first episode will appear this Wednesday, June 17. The following episodes will air on June 22 and 23. All episodes will be televised from 6:30pm to 7:30pm.

Local residents had the chance to join the Singapore trip by submitting a one-page essay

on why he/she is interested and what he/she expects from participating in the contest.

The contest, called "Integrated Resort Fact Finding Contest," was marketed and coordinated by TV show *John Gonzales Live*.

Saipan residents who visited Singapore with host John O. Gonzales were Charlene S. Gonzales, Nikkael Agustines, Paul Zak, Victoria C. Pangelinan, Dwayne Donovan Kaipat, Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Alex Sablan, and Jayson Camacho of the

Saipan Tribune.

The film will also show the residents being interviewed by Gonzales himself on what they actually experienced and what they like and didn't like.

Best Sunshine, with its 40-year casino license agreement with the CNMI, promises to build a \$7.1-billion integrated casino resort on Saipan, and recently inked a deal with CNMI officials on an amended casino agreement allowing the company to construct a live-training facility at the T Galleria in Garapan.

MYPros to hold its first membership meeting today

By **FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA**
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Young Professionals will be having its membership meeting today.

Dubbed "M3: MYPros Membership Meet," this is the first time that the group will be holding such an event.

According to MYPros vice president Nola Hix, the theme for this meeting is "Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things."

It will be held at the Naked Fish and registration will start at 6pm. The meeting will be held until 7:30pm.

"Come meet our board, sign up for committees, hear about future events, and find out how you can get involved and make a difference," Hix said.

MYPros will also be featuring their guest speaker, Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio,

who will talk about her success in her field.

They will also introduce one of CNMI's aspiring young non-profit founder, Hyun Jae Lee, who will introduce her "Let's End It" community awareness project.

Admission to the M3: MYPros Membership Meet is free and exclusive for MYPros members.

Motivated professionals between the ages 21 to 40 and wish to be a member may visit the MYPros website at www.mypros.org.

MYPros is a recently established non-profit organization by a team of young leaders. Its mission is "to connect passionate, young professionals with opportunities to grow and engage socially, professionally, and civically for the benefit of the Commonwealth."

— INTEGRATED RESORT — FACT FINDING

Find out the future of Saipan

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

TV Channel 14 every Wednesday
(repeats on Mon & Tue)

Organized by

John Gonzales **LIVE**

Sponsored by



BEST SUNSHINE

太平洋娛樂

SKYWALKER PRODUCTION



Speechless... awesome!

These are the two words that best describe my initial and lasting impression on this Fact Finding mission of Integrated Resorts. Singapore a small island in Asia Pacific has capitalized on the concept of integrated resorts which brought incredible opportunities such as job creation, social security contribution, economic prosperity and countless benefits for residents of a war devastated island nation Singapore.

My wish is for our elected and appointed leaders to set aside a short period of time to travel aboard to see, experience and understand for themselves the benefits of integrated resorts and complexities of making this venture succeed so they can make informed decisions.

We can place our beloved home of the Marianas in the world map amongst the league of competitive tourism-gaming and entertainment destinations if we, the government, our community and the investors all work together to ensure we protect the public interest while encouraging this investment to flourish.

John Gonzales, Talk Show Host & Producer



"Being part of Singapore's Fact Finding group is an unforgettable and knowledge-filled experience about family-oriented or luxurious integrated resorts - something we need in Saipan."

Nikkael Agustines, NMC Student



1st seasonal high tunnel nearly completed in Kagman

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI's first seasonal high tunnel will be set on farmer Frank Castro's farm plot in Kagman with the help of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, under the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Using its covering, a seasonal high tunnel helps extend the growing season of crops by keeping out excess moisture and insects. This helps local farmers avoid the use of insecticides, helps prevent fungus and mildew from growing on crops, and is expected to keep crops growing even during rainy season.

NRCS West area assistant director Bart Lawrence called this a "win-win all the way around for Kagman," during a tour of NRCS-assisted projects last week.

Castro's tunnel was provided through technical and financial assistance through the NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program, or EQIP. According to NRCS senior



DENNIS B. CHAN

Government officials check out what will be the CNMI's first seasonal high tunnel once completed in Kagman.

conservationist Kendall B. Hicks, this will be the first one built in the CNMI.

Ten or 12 more tunnels are also ready to be contracted, according to Hicks.

The tunnel, with its ability to create more favorable conditions for crops, is described as perfect for lettuce and also kale, a vegetable now high in demand but shipped to Saipan

from off-island.

During the tour last week, Hicks and Lawrence led Pacific Islands area director Bruce Petersen, other government agency individuals and interested commercial farmers to several of EQIP projects on island.

One stop was Castro's farm in Kagman, where NRCS is also helping the farmer build gutters for the tunnel, which will as-

sist in collecting rainwater. The water will be pumped into two 5,000-gallon storage reservoirs.

As of last week, the work was described as 90 percent done. Missing from the structure last week was the tunnel's plastic covering.

Castro, who has one of the oldest farms on Saipan, said he aims to grow leafy vegetables with the tunnel.

Per NRCS requirements, the materials grown have to be in the soil, and cannot be grown in concrete or on a table. Plants would have to go into the ground.

The rainwater irrigation is also said to be healthier for the local crop, as compared to using the heavy mineralized water from the public water system.

Hicks also said this mineralization is known to clog drip emitters in local hydroponic systems, forcing them to be replaced for thousands of dollars in costs.

On top of that, the harvesting and re-using of water is expected to save farmers thousands of dollars a year in utility charges.

"This is a great thing," said Lawrence.

"There is no silver bullet," he told individuals on the tour, when it came to projects NRCS is assisting with. He said they try to "respond to the diversity of needs to meet your main objectives."

The NRCS tour also stopped at James Matsumoto's tilapia farm on Capital Hill. For Matsumoto, NRCS is providing technical and financial help to

build a 5,060-square foot "water harvesting catchment" roof over Matsumoto's aquaculture farm. This will consist of a gutter network and series of water tanks that Matsumoto aims to use to start his own hydroponic farm. Hicks called this development "leading edge technology for the island."

To contact Hicks, or NRCS, for more information call (670) 233-3415 ext. 100.

Salcedo wins HANMI anniversary logo contest

Tricia Salcedo of William S. Reyes Elementary School has created the winning logo for the 30th anniversary of the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Salcedo won \$300 for her winning entry announced at the Taste of the Marianas on May 20, 2015. In 2nd place was Pearl Cataluna of Marianas Baptist Academy, and in 3rd place was Kiana Florendo of Hopwood Jr. High School, winning \$200 and \$100, respectively.

"Congratulations to Tricia for her winning entry, which presents our anniversary theme of 'HANMI: Building a Stronger Community with You' through the use of the latte stone image and a colorful, life-filled environment. We feel this fits with HANMI's work of making the CNMI a vibrant and economically-healthy community," said HANMI chair Cavanagh. "We appreciate and enjoyed reviewing the visual expressions of all the student participants."

Entries were judged by a panel of HANMI members: Abner Acosta, Fiesta Resort & Spa; Charles Cepeda, Pacific Trading Co.; Wendi Herring, Kanoa Resort; Michael Johnson, Deloitte & Touche; Guy Pudney, Marpac; Dennis Seo,



HANMI

The entry of Tricia Salcedo of William S. Reyes Elementary School is the official HANMI 30th anniversary logo for this year's celebration.

Coral Ocean Point Resort; Akiara Takaoka, Grandvrio Resort; and past chairman Judge David Wiseman.

The logo will be featured prominently on HANMI's anniversary activities this year. For more information on HANMI's 30th anniversary activities, visit the HANMI 30th Anniversary Facebook page at www.facebook.com/HANMI30.

HANMI was established in 1985 as a professional forum for the hospitality industry of the NMI. Today the association is comprised of 12 of the major hotels in the Northern Marianas serving a diversity of markets including Korea, Japan, and China. (HANMI)



DENNIS B. CHAN

Natural Resources Conservation Service led a tour around some of its project sites last week. Here, tour participants pose for a photo during a tour of James Matsumoto's tilapia farm, where NRCS is helping building a rainwater catch system.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 16, 2000

Man nabbed for possessing gun, marijuana leaves

Police arrested Michael Agualo, 35, Wednesday after a search in his vehicle yielded a plastic bag allegedly containing marijuana leaves and seeds as well as a .22 caliber gun.

According to Department of Public Safety Information Officer Rose Ada, Mr. Agualo was driving a 1997 Nissan pick-up when police stopped him for a violation at around 3:32 a.m.

The police officer asked Mr. Agualo's permission to search the vehicle which was immediately granted. He is now detained at the Division of Corrections and his vehicle has been impounded.

June 16, 2000

Unpaid retro pay reaches \$9.4-M

The government has owed over \$9.4 million in unpaid pay raise to nearly 2,000 employees, according to the Office of Management and Budget. In a report to Sen. Edward U. Maratita who has asked for the information in preparation for a plan to pay these overdue wages, OMB chief Edward S. Tenorio said the administration will need more time to compile and update on the financial obligation. Under that law, all employees who had reached the maximum salary level would have received a 14 percent across-the-board hike — benefits that were granted due to budget surplus experienced by the government at that time. Lawmakers are expected

to begin deliberation soon on the projected \$220 million budget for the next fiscal year and this early, they want to find out financial impact if they decide to include payment of the retroactive hike under the spending package.

June 16, 2004

On the reuse of Puerto Rico dump

Is it possible for DPW to publish the options in the media before the June 18 public meeting? This will probably facilitate discussion and offer background information that may be technical in nature. What are the biohazards that are remaining in the dump, if any? How big is the area? Is the surrounding water feasible for swimming? and so forth.... Why not just turn the whole place into a botanical garden/park that is more accessible to the community than the memorial park.... plant flame trees, golden showers, acacias, indigenous trees and shrubs,

and many fruit trees that will do well in that location.

June 16, 2004

CUC: Govt payments up but still behind

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. said its collection from the central government was up \$1.75 million in April compared with the same period last year. However, the government is still behind its payment schedule. "Although collections from the government are ahead of last year, government payments are less than current billings," said CUC acting comptroller Ed Williams in a report. He noted that, as soon as CUC advised the government last April of disconnection of accounts, the government asked the court for a temporary restraining order. The petition was granted. CUC disclosed last week that it is currently studying a fuel adjustment charge for its electricity rates following projections that the utility firm's fuel

expense this year would overshoot by \$7 million to \$8 million. CUC had budgeted \$31 million for fuel expenses for FY 2004, but due to increases in fuel prices, expenses would balloon to \$39 million.

June 16, 2005

Govt agencies asked to trim their budget

Office of Budget and Management director Ed Tenorio is asking all government offices to revise their budget spending and get rid of can-do-without items. The Babauta administration, which submitted a \$225.6 million budget proposal for fiscal year 2006 on April 1, is set to submit a revised budget on July 1. Meantime, Finance Secretary reiterated his earlier orders against the granting of 100 percent travel advances to government employees and officials, travel using local funds, and salary advances. The government projects some 20 percent decline in annual revenue due to the ongoing

downsizing within the garment industry. In the last two months, though, the government collected less than \$2 million each month in user fees.

June 16, 2005

'Audit bidders for power plant privatization'

The administration has requested that the two bidders in the power plant privatization project be subject to financial audits. Gov. Juan N. Babauta said the audits should be conducted immediately "to protect the interests integrity of the competitive bidding, evaluation, and selection process. "The privatization of Power Plant 1 at Lower Base is essential to increasing the efficiency and reliability of this vital power facility in Saipan. The increased efficiency and reliability will not only significantly reduce the danger to the public posed by uncontrolled load-shedding, it will lead to a much needed reduction in the overall cost of fuel consumption," Babauta said.

USP4GG protests vs China's aggression in West PH Sea



Members of the US Pinoys for Good Governance in Saipan gathered in San Jose during the Philippine Independence Day to hold a protest against what they call China's aggression in the West Philippine Sea.

FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

By **FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA**
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Members of the US Pinoys for Good Governance on Saipan gathered together in San Jose to protest China's aggression in the West Philippine Sea or South China Sea last Friday, in time for the celebration of the Philippine Independence Day.

Participants assembled at the Kili Pavilion and marched toward the Oleai intersection holding banners and flags.

Dr. Celia Lamkin, chairperson of USP4GG CNMI and Guam, Marianas Chapter, coordinated the pro-

test but was in Guam to personally head the rally there.

According to Lamkin, the rallies were a success despite only a handful of protesters in CNMI and Guam being able to actually attend the activities.

"We were able to reach out to the motorists or the people who witnessed the rallies," Lamkin said, adding that various media organizations took notice of their stand.

She said they wanted to "create public awareness" in the CNMI.

She also noted that this was how Independence Day should be observed.

"Let us all show to the whole world the Filipino unity, solidar-

ity and patriotism," she said.

Not an attack against Chinese

The group is also calling for Filipinos to boycott products that are made in China until China stops its occupation of Philippine territories in the West Philippine Sea.

However, Lamkin also clarified that what they are doing is not an attack to Chinese individuals themselves but to their government.

"We would like to emphasize that this is not against our Chinese brothers and sisters but the Chinese government whose claims in the West Philippine Sea and the rest of the nine dash lines in the South China Sea are bogus. China does not respect International Law, the UNCLOS, UN Convention of the Law of the

Seas," she said.

Various rallies were also held in different locations across the United States as well as in Italy, Canada,

France, and the Philippines.

USP4GG national chair Atty. Loida Nicolas Lewis headed the protest in New York City in front of Apple

Store. In the Philippines, USP4GG member and former congressman Roilo Golez headed the protest at the Chinese Consulate in Makati City.



FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

Banners of USP4GG called on China to stop its "bullying" in the West Philippine Sea.



FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

USP4GG also called on Filipinos to boycott made in China products as a protest against China's occupation of the disputed islands.

Guam governor's chief of staff resigns due to health issues

HAGATNA, Guam (AP) — The chief of staff for Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo is stepping down due to health issues.

The Pacific Daily News reports Frank Arriola said in a letter to the governor that while his health has shown some improvement, he

feels strongly that he should step down from his duties.

Calvo said in a news release that Arriola is an invaluable member of his staff.

He's appointed buildup director Mark Calvo to take over the job as of Saturday.

Demapan wants to bring back stipend program for medical referral program

By **JOEL PINAROC**
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan) said he wants a stipend program for medical referral patients to be revived.

Demapan said the program has been discontinued "for some years now" and that it was brought to lawmakers again by patients seeking help to alleviate costs while on medical referral trips.

Demapan said he will seek to identify funding for the stipend program, which he said is estimated at \$350,000 per year.

He said based on his experience as a medical referral

manager in Honolulu before assuming public office, \$20 per day can be of tremendous help for patients.

These patients are "not there on any leisure trip" and that there is a need to provide assistance, Demapan said.

The lawmaker further said he is glad to hear that the Medical Referral Services Office is now looking to raise the cap for the CNMI's indigent program from \$50,000 to \$80,000.

The program allows indigent individuals who cannot afford health insurance to seek government financial assistance of \$50,000.

"But if you exceed the

\$50,000, then you're on your own," Demapan said, adding that the MRS has submitted the proposal to the Attorney General's Office for comments.

Budget for medical referrals

MRS director Ronald D. Sablan, meanwhile, said a budget of \$8.039 million has been submitted to lawmakers during a budget hearing on Friday.

The government's proposal, however, is much lower at \$1.088 million. "What I presented is historical data on what the MRS program needs," Sablan said.

But Sablan said despite the

big difference, the government has a "reprogramming authority" to use to cover its medical referral program. The government has been "very accommodating," Sablan said.

Sablan added that on average, some 700 patients from the CNMI are sent on medical referrals abroad.

He said the priorities of the MRS will not change, and that is "to send people out to get the necessary medical treatments."

"But I'm really shorthanded, but efficiency is there, everybody wants more people, but I also want to help government to cut costs," Sablan said.

Tebuteb bill seeks color-coding scheme for govt vehicles

Minority leader Rep. Ramon A. Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan) has pre-filed House Bill 19-77 to establish a regulation for a more recognizable license plate for government vehicles.

There is an existing CNMI government vehicle registration

system, but license plates are still color-coded the same way as non-government owned vehicles.

H.B. 19-77 seeks to make government vehicles a little more distinguishable "especially at night," Tebuteb said.

The bill proposes that government vehicles should have red license plates so that citizens "will be able to report if such a government privilege were to be abused by government employees."

"The integrity of our government must be properly main-

tained, and to condone such actions is illegal," the bill said.

H.B. 19-77 also seeks to add a subsection to the existing government vehicle registration law.

The bill said, "All Executive, Legislative, Judicial, autonomous agencies, boards, and commis-

sions vehicles shall be issued a red colored license plate."

There are exemptions however, which includes vehicles that are conducting "undercover operations," and vehicles of "Judges, and Justices."

One of the provisions of the CNMI's Government Vehicle Act is that tinted windows are

not allowed for lawmakers and elected officials.

Lawmakers are allowed to use private license plates but the tinting has to be removed, with the exemption on tinting for law enforcement vehicles, such as the ones used by the Department of Public Safety and Division of Customs. (Joel Pinaroc)

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXV, Issue No. 118Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950**Jayvee L. Vallejera** EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com**Mark Rabago** ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Drugs

The addiction to drugs has become a favored legal defense in CNMI courts, and those around the nation, of late. Let's get familiar with some known terms that have natural psychoactive ingredients.

Ayahuasca brew (popular in Peru)*Betel nut* Areca catechu (Carolinian friends chew)*Cannabis* (the MJ of our familiar)*Coca* (Georgia's Cola used to use)*Datura* (the poisonous moonflowers)*Ephedra* (Chinese traditional medicine's *ma huang*, aka "Mormon" and "Indian" tea)*Kava* (the intoxicating pepper of Polynesia)*Khat* (an amphetamine like chewed stimulant in the Middle East)*Mescaline* (natural hallucinogenic similar to LSD effect in *Mejico*)*Morning glory* (with hallucinogenic properties, kin to the *kangkong*)*Nutmeg* (and you wondered why the Moluccas was so popular to Europe)*Peyote* (psychoactive alkaloid cacti)*Valerian* (a garden herb plant)*Yohimbine* (a veterinary tree often used to deal with erectile dysfunction)

Even of frogs, fishes, and mushrooms:

Psychoactive toad (psychedelic frogs do not turn into princes)*Hallucinogenic fish* (herbivorous ones known in Hawaii may be in Saipan reefs)*Amanita* (SE Asian mushroom variety is used for food coloring)

Not to be outdone, the lab versions abound as well. The countertop variety, prescribed or OTC'd if you have a pharmacist's friend, are:

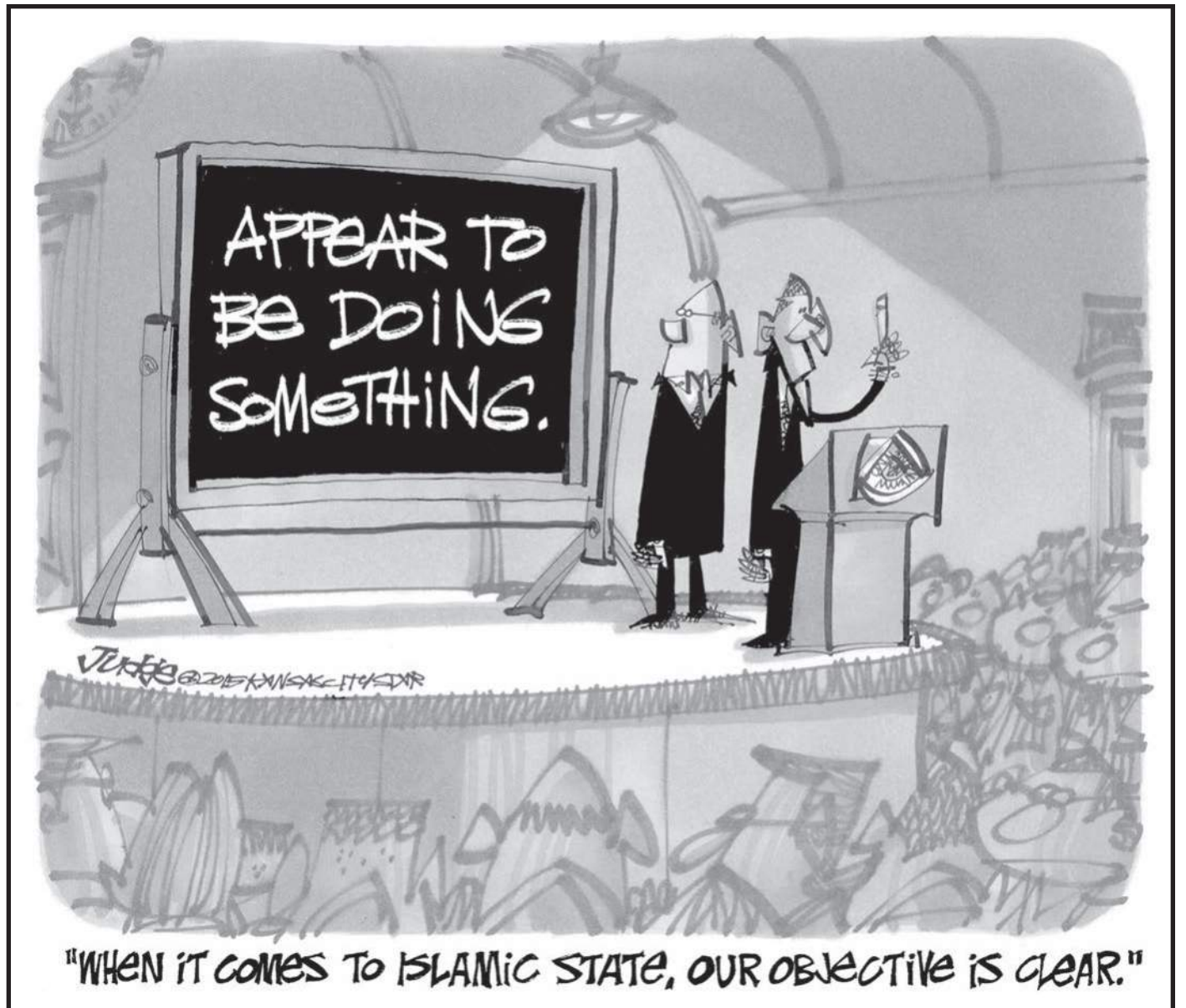
Amphetamine (stimulant known among ADHDs, also used as a performance stimulant; Benzedrine inhalers, anyone?)*Methamphetamine* (the powder that even cops gets busted for)

Body metabolism has drastically changed as the world is overwhelmed by reliance on pharmacological remedies. The reflex to reach for the pill has become universal and the statistics on effects and deviant behaviors have shot up as well.

Natural stimulants have always been a part of traditional remedies and have occasioned binding social relations around bonfires, picnic tables and living room mats. Those who abuse their use have reasons other than disrespect for the law. We need to treat those as such.

Psychedelic or hallucinogenic, psychoactive or just ordinary stimulant, are available and are everyone's choice. There lies the rub, a choice. Do we protect citizens from the choices they can make? Nah! BTW, not to touch the stuff is a choice. Choose well!

© 2015, Saipan Tribune



Ice has no place in our paradise

When I first arrived on Saipan in 1991, and found out about ice or methamphetamines. I was surprised that it cost so much, maybe \$100 for "ice" the size of a grain of rice, according to someone who tried, but failed to sell it to me. Some people I know who used it said they could not survive without it. One of them even compared it to the thirst one would feel when they are lost at sea for days without water.

Over the years, I have witnessed family, friends, and people I know from around island squander their lives away because of ice. I have heard stories of lying, cheating, and stealing to feed the "ice-heads" relentless pursuit of a high. I know people who were of good moral standing in our community, who have turned to ice, and now, they see me and say "Can I borrow \$20?" and when I say "I do not have it," they say, "What about \$10? How about \$5, do you have that?" After that, then they ask "how much do you have on you, I will pay you back double, I promise!" I also read recently in the papers how someone used the word "zombies" to refer to ice-heads.

It is a downward spiral into a dark hole where people will lose respect for you, and fear you as if you are a wild animal or a rabid dog, who has limited control over what they say or do. For every high on ice, there is a low, and sometimes the low is too difficult to bear without another high. Again, like zombies. Our people suffer trauma of all kinds because the itch to get a fix, to an ice addict, trumps even their own family!

When you read the papers nowadays, the judiciary has their hands full because of ice cases, just like the cops have their hands full. Methamphetamine is in print in the *Tribune* and the *Variety*, as well as on our local news. I remember in the middle to late 1990s there was a home invasion where ice-heads killed a mother in front of her kids. As a matter of fact I believe that many of the homicides in the CNMI are directly related to ice. A good number of our robberies if not all of them can be chalked up to ice. Divorces, prostitution, kidnapping, sexual abuse of minors, abuse and neglect of our elderly, and disturbing the peace, are the issues ice has contributed to our community.

I was privileged last week when I attended a luncheon with the Commissioner of DPS who spoke up against ice. He related ice to many of the issues DPS is currently facing. I understand from Commissioner Deleon Guerrero that the purity of the meth we see on island is something like 96 to 99 percent pure. The CNMI DPS and partners, have since last year, started the "War

By THOMAS M. THORNBURGH
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Thomas M. Thornburgh is the program manager of Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems Inc.



on Ice," according to the commissioner. He believes though that eradication of ice is possible, if we all work together against ice in our islands.

The Community Guidance Center's Chris and Herb came out on the news a week or so ago reminding our people that there is counseling available. They also stressed the importance of family around an addict to help them with their addiction. They want our people who are addicted to know that there is help to leave meth.

This is a full contrast from our islands of love, where we welcome people from all over the world, with open arms. Tourism is our bread and butter. Now our visitors are advised to keep their valuables in a safety box or out of sight when they park at our beaches. How unbecoming of an island paradise, how unwelcoming to our visitors!

Being that I work for Disability Rights, I know that people who are trying to recover by showing proof of attending narcotics anonymous or staying sober can avail of protections provided by the American's with Disability Act (ADA). Since I sometimes work on Tinian and Rota, I see the Ice epidemic in the CNMI up close. On Tinian, it is said by locals that "ice is like rice," as it is readily available, and \$5.00 can get you high. On Rota, we read about ice trafficking on planes that fly in and out of Luta.

Nothing will happen until our people actively and openly talk about meth then maybe we will begin to agree that Ice is a great issue that needs great effort by a great number of our community members to fight it in our islands. If we agree that our goal is to reduce the use of ice in our islands, then we have to think outside the box and plan a route that may not be conventional, but ultimately, will lead to our goal of reducing the ice epidemic in the CNMI.

See ICE on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Rick Perry has no place for Latinos

Rick Perry's aspiration to rule the United States as he ruled Texas would be terrible for all of us, especially minorities and the poor.

Perry, who just stepped into the GOP presidential fray, spent his 14 years as governor sidelining entire segments of the population.

Among his prime victims were Latinos. Perry has consistently portrayed himself as a champion of Hispanics, trumpeting a small number of minority appointees and a few sops, such as allowing in-state tuition to undocumented children raised in Texas. But, in general, his policies have been overwhelmingly bad for the Latino community.

El Paso is one of the safest cities in the United States, but Perry chose to portray it as a hellhole, exaggerating the incidence of violent crime there. Associating El Paso with the drug cartel violence that plagued its sister city, Juarez, was a way for Perry to make a case for greater control over the lives and movements of heavily Latino border communities.

Perry and his party twice gerrymandered districts to diminish the

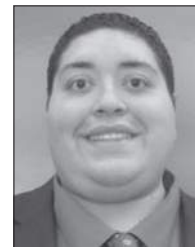
voting power of Latinos and other minorities. Despite a partially successful lawsuit against Texas gerrymandering in 2006, *League of United Latin American Citizens v. Perry*, Republicans largely kept minorities suppressed during the next redistricting in 2012.

This lack of political representation has had a dramatic effect in El Paso. As a city with an 80 percent Latino population, we've rarely gotten much consideration from the state. And with a population that votes heavily Democratic in a Republican state, El Paso's representatives have been ignored for years in the Texas Legislature. During the last state election, one Republican campaigner went so far as to suggest to me that if we wanted to be heard by our government, we ought to start voting for the Republican Party.

That's what Texas has been under Perry: Vote Republican or go home. The voter ID law that has disenfranchised hundreds of thousands of Texans living in poverty was in full effect during the last election. Unlike other states, Texas has made no effort to promote access to state ID cards for the poor. The result is more disenfranchisement.

Since entering the 2016 presidential race, Perry has defended

By JOSE MIGUEL LEYVA
Tribune News Service



Jose Miguel Leyva is a freelance writer and journalist living in El Paso, Texas. He wrote this for Progressive Media Project, a source of liberal commentary on domestic and international issues; it is affiliated with The Progressive magazine.

the voter ID law. But many of those disenfranchised by the law are poverty-stricken Latinos. El Paso, home to more than half a million Latinos, is one of the poorest cities in the nation. The poorest is Brownsville, another Texas border town with an even higher percentage of Latino residents.

If Texas is the blueprint Perry will use to reform the nation, we should all be very wary. Perry's system of government has no room for minorities or the poor.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Facts you need to know about gathering community input

The Mariana Islands are homelands, the Mariana home islands, including the surrounding waters, air, undersea and space environments, are the heart and soul of the Chamorro and Refaluwasch (Carolinian) cultural and spiritual identities. The late Guam governor Ricky Bordallo conveyed this when he noted: "Guam is not just a piece of real estate to be exploited for its money-making potential." Above all else, Guam is the homeland of the Chamorro people. That is a fundamental, undeniable truth. We are profoundly 'taotao tano'—people of the land. This land, tiny as it is, belongs to us just as surely, just as inseparably, as we belong to it. No tragedy of history or declaration of conquest, no legalistic double-talk can change that fact. Guam is our legacy. Is it for sale? How can one sell a national birthright?" (in Phillips, *Land Ownership on Guam*, Guampedia).

Misreading the Community: What Doesn't Work and the False Perceptions that are Manufactured For decades now, social scientists and other professionals acknowledge (what Micronesian Islanders intrinsically know to be true) that current methods for gathering community input about impacts to natural and cultural resources (i.e., soliciting public statements spoken into a microphone at public meetings, and written comments regarding written reports) are not culturally appropriate for indigenous island communities like those of Micronesia, including the Chamorro and Refaluwasch communities of the Mariana Islands chain. Part of what must be understood from the inception of developing land-use plans, developing Environmental Impact Statements (EIS), to gathering community input, is that the roles and obligations of relationships in Pacific Island cultures are inherently reciprocal. Pacific Islanders are renowned for being good, generous, and thoughtful hosts.

However, what is not as widely nor openly discussed is the fact that there are also obligations and proper etiquette for the guest (e.g., a U.S. government agency like the military). Being a good guest is the other requirement viewed by Pacific Islanders as key and the employment of which provides for a healthy and balanced relationship within the greater context of Pacific Island social systems.

Good Guests Good guests do not ask for more than they should receive given the relationship history and the reciprocal obligations tied to that request. Good guests do not make themselves a burden to a host (e.g., the people of Guam and the NMI). Good guests understand what is too much to ask for or what is overly burdensome behavior. Good guests are humble and respectful in their interactions with the host community, which includes not calling attention to, or downplaying, one's contributions or actions (i.e., not capitalizing on or taking advantage of the agency's acts of "giving"). Further, good guests seek to recognize and highlight the great efforts made by the host to accommodate the guest, not the other way

around. Not taking these cultural paradigms into account creates a false sense of agreement or acceptance owing to Pacific Islander cultural systems, which call for making guests feel comfortable; providing assistance; being generous/giving/sharing; and morés against saying 'no' when asked for something.

Pacific Islanders also have established norms to not speak for other families, clans, or communities and to not speak up out of place or out of turn. Further adding to the complexity of gathering community input in the Mariana Islands is that both Guam and the NMI have experienced unchecked rapid population spurts, which they are disallowed from controlling. Currently on Guam, Chamorros are a plurality (the largest of the ethnic groups present) but are no longer a majority in their own homeland. Some 60 percent of the island population is now non-indigenous and thus have relatively shorter and weaker connections to understand and contextualize just how deeply connected our people are to the total environment. While not entirely dissimilar with regard to plurality, the Chamorros and Refaluwasch of the NMI continue to adhere to their indigenous identity and as such, persistently reinforce their connection to their home islands.

There is, however, an underlying cause for concern in general because many who come from outside the Marianas hold and associate their strongest identities and loyalties to their respective place of birth and/or their homelands. For those without deep roots in the Marianas and who are also aware and care to acknowledge Chamorro and Refaluwasch sentiments, the feeling may be that because they are not tied to the island chain, it would be out of place to tell the indigenous community what should be done with their ancestral land and resources and so may not provide any input. Thus, many in the community may provide input that is not reflective of the historical uniqueness and value of the land, may provide limited or politically incorrect input, or may step aside and not provide any input at all. All of these conditions create situations that can be erroneously read by a government agency as apathy or agreement. In fact, not showing up or not participating in public hearings is often the indigenous way of protesting the issue(s) at hand.

Inaccurate readings of Mariana Islands community sentiments also arise from the reality that their 250,000 members have been and continue to be overwhelmed with continuous requests for input regarding lengthy, technical, complex American English language documents that refer to one another (i.e., Environmental Impact Statements) which have been 11,000, 4,000, and 1,500 pages long and for which a 30- to 90-day time-frame is allotted within which to read, assess, and provide adequate response. Any community would be overwhelmed and quickly worn out and worn down by the level of requests being demanded of them which is precisely what is occurring. The potential opportunity for creating culturally appropriate methods for gathering input that is truly reflective of Guam and the NMI community is great. The agency just has to have the political good will to develop them not once or twice, but on a recurring basis. Chamorro and Refaluwasch Decision-Making Systems Chamorros and Refaluwasch have their own ways of generating meaningful community input as well as systems and rules about how information should be gathered and imparted. There are family, clan, and community experts, leaders, and elders that manage systems of respect and deference who carry out roles in representing families, clans, and communities, which, if bypassed, are consid-

ered inappropriate and disrespectful.

Moreover, Chamorro and Refaluwasch cultures are oral cultures. What is spoken by culturally prescribed and recognized experts, leaders, and elders has more weight and recognition as truth than the written word, especially that written by those from outside the culture and the Marianas. The Chamorro and Refaluwasch cultures are founded on respect for these ancestral systems of archiving and dispensing knowledge and truth. The Government's Roles and Responsibilities in Gathering Community Input the intended goal of gathering community input regarding damage and destruction to natural and cultural resources is that the input must accurately reflect the true sentiments of the community. That was the intent by those who authored the regulations mandating that it be gathered. Instead, current methods employed ignore, undermine, and silence Chamorro and Refaluwasch traditional cultural systems for providing such input. This, in effect, creates a dysfunctional system that results in the decline of social systems that, for the past millennia, have been rooted in these islands. According to American federal legislation protecting natural and cultural resources (e.g., NEPA and NHPA), the responsibility is on the entity seeking community input in indigenous communities to find out and provide culturally appropriate means for gathering input that reflects the true sentiments of the community and is not on indigenous communities to go against their cultural systems in order to provide the types of input that are being sought.

Genevieve S. Cabrera
Cinta M. Kaipat
Kelly G. Marsh-Taitano
Rick Perez

Via e-mail

ICE

From Page 10

Since we in Micronesia traditionally hand down our knowledge through stories, maybe this can be a medium that you will appreciate...

Once upon a time, there was a canoe, on which six men were heading north from the Caroline Islands. They travelled for three days heading north, then abruptly, the navigator changed directions, and steered the canoe east all through the night. By morning, the others on board started whispering amongst themselves about why they were heading east when they were supposed to go north to Saipan. They felt lost and were not sure they were on the correct route. At last, one of them built up the courage to ask the navigator, who immediately stopped chanting, and after a great pause, said "Sometimes to end up in the north, you have to go east and west."


We have to educate ourselves to understand ice. Then share what we learn about it with others. Let us raise awareness of ice in our community now, and by any means necessary to spare our people and islands. I believe ice has no place in our paradise.

For more on disabilities, the ADA, addiction, or trauma, please do not hesitate to contact your Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems Inc. (NMPASI) at telephone numbers 235-7273 or 4; Fax at 235-7278; or online at www.nmpasi.org.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲88° ▼77°


WEDNESDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲88° ▼77°


THURSDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▼77°


FRIDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼77°

SATURDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼78°

Yesterday's Satellite Image

PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2015


Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A near-equatorial trough runs east-southeastward from 7N130E through a weak circulation south of Yap near 5N139E to a second weak circulation centered near 1N156E, then curves eastward to end near 1N165E. Scattered to widely scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found south of Koror, Yap and Chuuk south of a line from 6N135E to 9N143E to 3N153E. Similar conditions are present near and south of Pohnpei and Kosrae south of a line from 7N156E to 3N167E. A trade-wind disturbance interacting with upper-level divergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of a line from 9N168E to 7N180.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼76
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲89	▼77
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲87	▼79
Chuuk	Overcast	▲88	▼78
Pohnpei	Overcast	▲83	▼76
Kosrae	Light Showers	▲81	▼77
Majuro	Overcast	▲81	▼76

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Sunny	▲57	▼46
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲94	▼70
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼81
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼73
London	Partly Cloudy	▲72	▼55
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼62
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲93	▼78
Melbourne	Showers	▲60	▼50
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼78
New York	Showers	▲83	▼67
Osaka	Rain	▲77	▼68
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲73	▼53
Pusan	Showers	▲78	▼64
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲81	▼64
Salem	Sunny	▲87	▼51
San Francisco	Fog	▲65	▼54
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼65
Tokyo	Showers	▲77	▼67
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲94	▼77



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
2:15 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
7:21 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
2:46 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.4 Feet
9:42 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	5:48 AM	6:48 PM
Wednesday	5:48 AM	6:49 PM
Thursday	5:48 AM	6:49 PM
Friday	5:48 AM	6:49 PM
Saturday	5:48 AM	6:49 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	5:18 AM	6:26 PM
Wednesday	6:12 AM	7:20 PM
Thursday	7:06 AM	8:11 PM
Friday	7:59 AM	8:59 PM
Saturday	8:51 AM	9:43 PM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 28, 2015														
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS								
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN								
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily					
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3			UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3					
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7			UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7					
UA5039	2:15pm	3:55pm	6, 7 via Rota			UA5039	12:55pm	1:45pm	6, 7					
UA5078	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 5			UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota					
UA5038	3:05pm	3:55pm	2, 4			UA5077	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 5					
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5			UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5					
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7			UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7					
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5			UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5					
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)								
UA5039	2:15pm	2:50pm	6, 7			UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4					
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN								
UA5039	3:20pm	3:55pm	6, 7			UA5038	2:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4					
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)						PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN								
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT			DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT					
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN								
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 6			DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily					
DL297	4:30pm	7:15pm	Daily			DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7					
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN								
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1			7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7					
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			7C3402	10:55am	4:25pm	3, 5, 6					
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 5, 6, 7			OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7					
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	3, 4			OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6					
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7			7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily					
7C3401	5:25pm	9:10pm	3, 5, 6											
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN								
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6					
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN								
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7					
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN								
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7			MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6					
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN								
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5					
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN								
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN			DL276/288	9:30am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT					
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM					
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN					
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN					
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM			PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM					
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM					
DL287/275	6:05am	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT			UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM					
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM			UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:45pm+1	6 via GUM					
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:35pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota					
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:35pm+1	4, 7 via GUM					
UA5039/183	2:15pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:25pm+1	4, 7 via GUM					
UA5038/183	3:05pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM			UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM					
UA5078/183	3:05pm	8:50pm	5 via GUM			UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:10pm+1	4, 7 via GUM					
UA5078/183	3:05pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM			UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM					
UA5038/183	3:05pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM			UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM					
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN								
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN					
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN					
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM					
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM			UA180/5039	9:55pm	1:45pm+1	5, 6 via GUM					
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM			UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:40pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota					
UA5039/179	2:15pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM			UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM					
UA5078/179	3:05pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM											

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.								
TINIAN TO SAIPAN			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE								

BSI 8,500-ft sewer pipeline begins design

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Best Sunshine International, Ltd. has begun design on an approximately 8,500-foot sewer force main, or pressurized pipe system, to accommodate waste flows from its planned 14-story casino resort in Garapan.

Wastewater piping in Gara-

pan has been found inadequate for BSI's estimated 24,000 gallons of discharge from its casino hotel per day. If not addressed, these flows are expected to inundate the wastewater system in area, causing discharge to backflow and affect existing businesses and development.

According to John Riegel, the Commonwealth Utilities

Corp.'s water and wastewater division chief engineer, Hofschneider Engineering, LLC—Best Sunshine's International, Ltd. engineers—will submit their plans to CUC and the Department of Public Works for approval.

"Project has started design. Construction is forecast to begin this year," Riegel told *Saipan Tribune*.

According to Riegel, the force main will be in an alignment—preliminary—down Beach Road in Garapan to Middle Road. It will follow along Middle Road to the point of intersection with an existing force main from lift station "S3" to the "ST" treatment plant.

The force main will tie into the existing force main, he said.

The alignment will not will got the S3 lift station by the Mobil tank farm entrance as was previously planned.

A message and email left at their Hofschneider Engineering's office last week was not immediately returned as of press time.

Best Sunshine presented their major siting permit application

to regulator officials last month. The application has been certified complete with a public hearing set later this month on June 25, a Friday. Included in their application are off-site road and drainage improvements. These include improvements to Hibiscus Street and the repair of the oft-polluted open-air canal beside the hotel property.

SVS Canaries read over 6K books, 20M words in 1 week

They say the early bird gets the worm. The San Vicente Canaries must be catching lots of bookworms. During this year's Annual PSS Millionaire Read-a-Thon they read, in one week, 6,273 books containing 20,323,870 words and passed comprehension quizzes on each and every one

of them. In fact, the Canaries have read 40,611 books with 137,325,643 words so far this school year. With 576 students in 1st through 5th grade, that's an average of 72 books per student. How many books have you read this year?

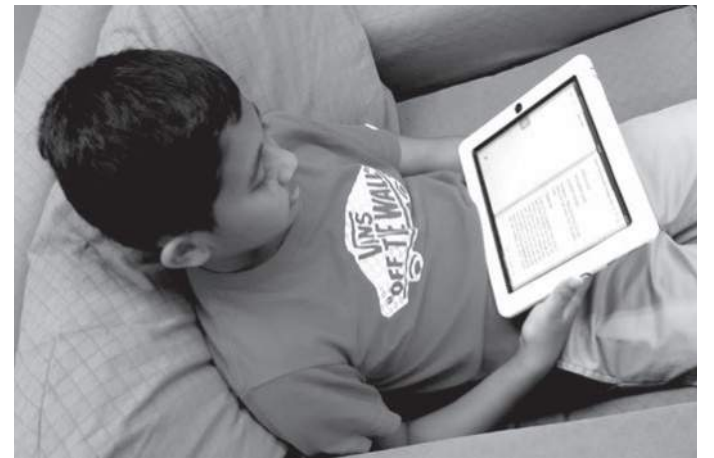
The students are taking part in a program called Acceler-

ated Reader. Students read books at their reading level, and then take a computerized quiz that checks for understanding of the book. The program keeps track of how many quizzes each student passes, and even the number of words they have read.

"This program is really

helping SVES students reach our goal of having all students read on level," according to Rick Gramlich, the school's librarian. "The students really enjoy AR, as we call it. They can set goals, read books at their own level, and watch their point totals and reading levels grow. AR is actually helping our students perform better in all subjects. When they are reading interesting books that they have chosen, they will read faster to find out what happens next. This leads to faster decoding of the words and sentences they read. Decoding faster helps them in other subjects as well because they won't have to slowly trudge through the reading for those subjects. Another great thing about this program is that it gives quantified data for students, classes and the whole school. We are lucky at SVS to have administrators who understand the importance of having a well-stocked library. With over 20,000 books, I think our library has more books than any other elementary library in the CNMI."

The Millionaire Read-a-Thon this year was a frantic, fantastic success. The library was packed all day with students borrowing 8 books at



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

San Vicente Elementary School's John Kintol reads an e-book.

a time, reading them, taking quizzes and then high-tailing it back to the library for more books. "Thank goodness for Ms. Rufina Seman, who was helping me in the library, I was ready to give up," said Mr. Gramlich. "It was crazy. At one time I counted over 70 students in the library with 8 books each to return or borrow. I loaned out over 5,000 books in 5 days. The Library Software crashed at least twice a day. But it was great to see so much excitement over reading. At SVES we understand we need to compete with TV, video games and the Internet. Reading is the foundation for most learning, so the effort is worth it!"

SVS has some great readers. Tara White's class read

4,016,923 words in one week. They have read, and passed comprehension quizzes on, 1,612 books so far this school year. Two of her students, Emma Jeon and Brigit Tabuena, have already read over two million words each this year. SVS has a lot of "Millionaire Readers", students who have read over a million words in the last eight months. They are: Mark Azarcon, Marinel Falalimpa, Jayana Socorro, Regina Reyes, Michelle Pan, Julius Olivo, Barbara Petrus, Elyna Deleon Guerrero, Princess Cania, Sumin Ahn, Sommer Gomez, Robert Deleon Guerrero, Anita Perez, Diana Cao, Melfred Valdez, Neiyahni Benavente, Kelly Wu, Drauzen Jicko, and Maria Rasa. (SVES)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

San Vicente Elementary School's Garrett Borja takes a quiz.

Guam Guard celebrates 204th Army birthday with cake cutting ceremony

The Guam Army National Guard celebrated the 240th birthday of the United States Army with a Cake Cutting Ceremony last at the Guard's Readiness Center in Barrigada.

More than 200 soldiers and airmen sang *Happy Birthday* and the *Army Song* as the cake was cut to celebrate 240 years of selfless service to the nation.

Selfless service is at the core of what it means to be a soldier—putting the welfare of others ahead of oneself. The willingness of our soldiers—to place themselves in harm's way and to protect our nation's freedoms—is what makes us

the premier all-volunteer force. The Army has served proudly, faithfully, and selflessly for 240 years, and we remain steadfast in our commitment.

"The Guam Army National Guard would not have had its history of success without the support of our families and the local communities. We continue to thank and appreciate the support and sacrifice that our families, employers and the community provided and continue to provide here on Guam," said Brig. Gen. Roderick Leon Guerrero, the Adjutant General of the Guam National Guard. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Colonel C. Scott Mitchell, Commander, 196th Infantry Brigade; Private First Class Keoni Wong, the youngest soldier; Brig. Gen. Roderick Leon Guerrero, the Adjutant General of the Guam National Guard; Chaplain (MAJ) Richard Kelley, the oldest soldier; and Carl Petersen, the Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army, cut the cake in celebration of the U.S. Army's 240th Birthday, during a ceremony at the Guard's Readiness Center in Barrigada last week.

Searching for Earhart is his life’s quest, despite doubters

OXFORD, Pennsylvania (AP)—There are many people with theories about what happened to Amelia Earhart. But few stir up more excitement—or more ire—than Ric Gillespie.

The longstanding official theory is that the famed pilot and her navigator, Fred Noonan, ran out of gas and crashed into deep ocean waters northwest of Howland Island, a tiny speck in the South Pacific that the pair missed while attempting a round-the-world flight in 1937.

Since 1989, Gillespie and The International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery, or TIGHAR, have been testing another theory—and they’ve headed back to the region this month. They surmise that Earhart made an emergency landing on a flat stretch of coral reef off what was then known as Gardner Island, southwest of Howland. And they’ve raised millions in private funds to finance several treks to the distant atoll, now called Nikumaroro.

Set to arrive this weekend, the TIGHAR team now wants to check an anomaly seen in sonar imaging on an underwater cliff where the reef drops off.

Could it be the fuselage of Earhart’s Lockheed Electra 10E airplane?

Gillespie makes no promises: “There’s no guarantee of success.”

He’s far from the only one looking for Earhart.

An Australian researcher thinks wreckage spotted by members of his country’s military years ago on a Papua New Guinea island could be hers. Others are investigating local island lore that Earhart and Noonan crash landed on Mili Atoll, 800 miles northwest of Howland, and died in Japanese hands.

Various teams who believe the crashed-and-sank theory—an explanation supported by curators at the Smithsonian’s Air and Space Museum—have tried to find the plane using sophisticated equipment to scan the ocean floor. No one has found a verified plane part or bone fragment.

But Gillespie says he and his team are building their case, slowly but surely.

He has his admirers. In 2012, then Secretary of State Hillary Clinton recognized Gillespie at a reception honoring Earhart. In a letter to him, she said, “This great adventure embodies the very hope, ingenuity and boundless optimism of the American spirit”—a reference to the expedition that year in which TIGHAR collected several underwater sonar images.

But there’ve been disappointments and controversy, too.

There was the filing cabinet discovered on Nikumaroro that



AP
Aircraft Recovery in June 2015, Ric Gillespie, the group’s co-founder, stands on a beach during an expedition to the South Pacific island of Nikumaroro in Kiribati.

the team thought came from Earhart’s plane but later linked to a military aircraft. The team also excavated a grave that turned up bones, not of the famous pilot but of a tiny infant.

One of TIGHAR’s more controversial finds is a piece of metal, likely from an airplane, which the team found at Nikumaroro in the early 1990s. Gillespie’s latest theory is that it’s a patch that covered a window on Earhart’s plane. Many critics dispute that, though Gillespie has at least one notable supporter—MIT engineering professor Thomas Eagar who thinks it may be “the real thing.”

Over the years, Gillespie and his team have found other

items in what they think is an old castaway camp. These, they say, aren’t as easily explained—heel fragments from a woman’s shoe, a rusted jack knife and fragments of toiletries they believe are from the 1930s. Their own expert’s high-tech analysis of an object in an old photograph of the island determined that it could be Lockheed landing gear jutting from the reef before being washed away, they say.

In England, the team also found records of human bones found long ago on the island. The bones are missing, but Gillespie says modern-day analysis of measurements indicate they could’ve come from a woman of European descent.

None of it is definitive proof, he and his team realize.

“We have compiled a preponderance of evidence suggesting—not proving—that our hypothesis is true,” says Tom King, TIGHAR’s lead archaeologist.

Some critics insist that Gillespie has found nothing remotely tied to Earhart—and that remnants on the island are more likely from a former Coast Guard station or from islanders who settled on Nikumaroro after Earhart’s disappearance until the mid-1960s.

Then there’s Tim Mellon, a one-time supporter and now critic, who thinks quite the opposite—that Gillespie knows more than he reveals. Two years ago, Mellon accused Gillespie in an unsuccessful lawsuit of hiding the fact that he’d found Earhart’s plane so Mellon would donate more than \$1 million in stock to help fund the 2012 expedition. A judge rejected Mellon’s appeal last month, but he’s sticking to his assessment of Gillespie.

“It’s a business for him . even though he calls it a charity,” Mellon said in a telephone interview.

Now Mellon has filed a complaint with the IRS, claiming that TIGHAR is violating non-profit guidelines. Already, public records show Gillespie has a state tax delinquency in Dela-

ware for more than \$55,000—an amount Gillespie’s wife and TIGHAR co-founder, Pat Thrasher, says they’re working to pay back after getting into debt to pay for a defense in the Mellon lawsuit.

Gillespie, meanwhile, says the IRS complaint is unfounded—“the pique of a pissed off millionaire.” Dismissing his critics, he adds, “Amelia inspires passion. I understand that.. But my skin got thick a long time ago.”

And so the 68-year-old pilot with a background in airplane accident investigation continues his search.

His intrigue started with Earhart’s last reported “line of position,” which eventually runs past Nikumaroro. It’s continued with the purported castaway camp and shortwave radio distress calls after Earhart’s disappearance. Many have dismissed the calls as hoaxes, but he and his team believe dozens are credible.

Tom Crouch, a senior curator in the aeronautics department at the Smithsonian’s National Air and Space Museum, doesn’t agree.

“We’ve argued about this stuff for 30 years,” says Crouch, who considers Gillespie a friend.

“But,” he adds, “I could be wrong.”

MCS 4th QUARTER PRESIDENT’S LIST AND HONOR ROLL

Mount Carmel School congratulates the following students for making it to the 4th Quarter President's List and Honor Roll. (Note that students are listed in alphabetical order according to their last names.)

PRESIDENT’S LIST

Students must have a GPA of 4.00 or above and must attain character marks of VG or above.

1st GRADE

BACKE, Asa Vanessa
BUENAFLO, Oscar Bien R.
DELA SANTA, Heleyna E.
ESTELLA, Valerie Anne R.
HAYES, Alana P.
JAVIER, Lance Jericho
LANSANGAN, Lexi Marie N.
MARATITA, Elise Divine F.
MATSUMOTO, Ayanna Faith H.
MENDOZA, Mikaehla Paige R.
OGO, Therese Joy O.
PANGELINAN, Joseph Brandon
SANTIAGO, Gavril Myles R.
TENORIO, Jessiana B.
TOMOKANE, Peige Morgan N.

2nd GRADE

CAMACHO, Irie Kane H.
CASTRO, Kenneth Salinas
CHANG, Jada Marie B.
KAUTZ, Claire Regina G.
LOBO, Angelo Tabamo
NAPUTI, Elialyn Maria C.
NICHOLAS, Jalen Jeremiah B.
PALACIOS, Tricia J.
PEREZ, Gregorio Jr. M.
REYES, Chelsy Anne L.
SABLAN, Kiana Cecilia N.
SANTOS, Dylan D.
SASAMOTO, Hitomi Rosa S.
STEELE, Lyssa Rae P.
TAIMANAO, Aryana A.
TENORIO, Malina Rose

TOSKAS, Ari James
TRAVILLA, Arturo Rodrigo Z.

3rd GRADE

DAYRIT, Jenarisa Mae S.
GAMAB, Gwen Tiffany D.
GUERRERO, Ruben Antonio C.
PROPST, Devin Jordan M.
REYES, Vicente Jose B.
SABLAN, Andrew B.
SAN NICOLAS, Earle Gabreil L.

4th GRADE

BALDAZO, Keehara Nielsen V.
CABRERA, Kyla Monique B.
DELA CRUZ, Kina M.
GALANG, Raphael Christian P.
GREEN, Lynzey Valencia C.
HUNTER, Brissa C.
MUNA, Breanna S.
MUNA, Sienna Jade B.
OMAR, Salina Jacklyn I.
ORTIZO, Brent Matthew E.
PALACIOS, Ryona Exsaleen S.
PANGELINAN, Manuel Jacinto M.
PARK, Jun Lee
REYES, Tiara Maya I.
SABLAN, Mathew Adrian A.
SABLAN, Aubriana-Maria A.
SASAMOTO, Derek Moritaro S.
SASAMOTO, YuriHana Rosa DLG.

5TH GRADE

ALDAVE, Lynette Anne D.
BUCALIG, Fiona Marielle A.
DIAZ, Jeremiah Jerome H.
MALLARI, Vaugh Andrei A.
PROPST, Kiana Lei M.
STEELE, Richard Ramon P.
TENORIO, Mariana B.

6th GRADE

AVENDANO-WOODRUFF, Katherine Stephanie
CASTRO, Coloma Aqualin B.
HUNTER, Brandee C.

MINAMI, William Kazuki
SABLAN, Penelope F.

7TH GRADE

HAM, Jim Michael V.

8TH GRADE

ACOSTA, Ydylle Faye C.
BATUSIN, Aldwin Ray T.
BOBADILLA, Jan Emmanuel DLC.
CASTRO, Rosa Engracia P.
CHO, Hyo Lim
GOMEZ, Peyton Ha’ani R.
HAN, Louisa Sa
MACARANAS, Dayna Lou M.
MANESE, Angelo Gabriel C.
PANGELINAN, Rosalia Francine A.
RAMIREZ, Reica Jucel A.
SATO, Karen

9TH GRADE

HEO, Paul
LAZARO, Maria Christine M.
LIM, Nathanael D.
MELCHOR, Jeff Mathew B.
PALACIOS, Michelle L.
TORRES, Cassidy Victoria C.
TOSKAS, Jonelle Gwyneth
USI, Monica
ZHENG, Rui Hua (Theresa)

10TH GRADE

CAMACHO, Eligiah Marie P.
CUSHING, Arron Christopher
DELEON GUERRERO, Zeno Jr. C.
DOCTOR, Jaqueline B.
HAN, Ya
HIGUCHI, Kai
HUNTER, Brianna C.
JUN, You Jin
LEE, Eric
ORTIZO, Michael Roy E.
PALACIOS, Cheng Yang
SANTOS, Joshua G.

11TH GRADE

BANG, Ji Eun (Andrea)
DELEON GUERRERO, Lance Vincent Q.
EVANGELISTA, Amalina Delamona L.
HOFSCHNEIDER, Stephen Anton D.
IWAI, Emiri
JAVIER, Cathryn Jane A.
KIM, Ki Youn (David)
MANGLONA, Thomas Lee II
PANGELINAN, Jonathan R.
RYU, Sung Hun

12TH GRADE

BABAUTA, Peter Thomas A.
CAMACHO, William DLG.
DELOS SANTOS, Savannah Lyn R.
KIM, Da Hyun
KIM, Kyung Min
LAZARO, Maria Fe Andrea M.
LEE, Woo Ri (Esther)
MOSES, Darvhan-Augustine V.
ROMOLOR, Itchakomi Neiwoolim T.
SATO, Masami
SEO, Grace Yoo
SON, Jung Hyun (Tony)
YOO, Helen

HONOR ROLL

Students must have a GPA of 3.66 or above and must not have any behavior grade of U or NI.

1ST GRADE

BAHILLO, Ida-Candida Emelia S.
CRUZANA, Joaquin Ian M.
DELEON GUERRERO, Nyla N.
KAPILEO, Vivica Jewels D.
MANGLONA, Maxine C.
RABAUlimAN, Sophia Miley O.
TRAVILLA, Riana Joy P.

2nd GRADE

CHAE, Davina K.
DUENAS, Quimari Liwerscheng B.
LEE, Han Seo
LEE, Jamie
MALLARI, Audrein Jennifer M.

MALLARI, Laizza Vianca A.
PARK, Jesse Lee
SILVA, Maui K. P.
TAISACAN, Nevaeh Sky B.

3rd GRADE

BOCAGO, Ranasia S.
LEE, Ru Da
REYES, Tiffany Geraldine M.
TORRES, Maria Yoshie C.
TORRES, Tiana G.

4th GRADE

CAMACHO, Vidal Jose H.
DANCOE, Lady Vanessa P.
DELEON GUERRERO, Serafin R.
DIAZ, Carlo Crisdeo H.
MILITANTE JR. Donnie James C.

5th GRADE

ALVAREZ, Robin Kyle M.
CHONG, Kevin Daisuke M.
COMBINIDO, Jewel Monique M.
DUENAS, Monique Laura F.
GUERRERO, Christian Felix C.
KANG, Jerica DaHyun
MAFNAS, Christopher Adam L.
MENDIOLA, Alleah Marie R.
MUNA, Devon Tyler S.
SABLAN, Vidal Jose B.
SCHWEIGER, Theresa Rose C.
SHEU, Jeffrey Yue
TENORIO, Joshua C.
TRAVILLA, Kaia D.
VILLAR, Jedric Nathaniel C.

6th GRADE

GALANG, Aldraine Angelo P.
KANG, Kevin
REYES, Kyana Frances DLG.
SATO, Maaya
TOMBOC, Reuben Christian O.
TORRES, Dominic G.

7th GRADE

ALCANTARA, Princess Luisa
BORJA, Kalea Lou B.
BUCALIG, Francesca Marie A.
KIM, Yu Dam

PAK, Nicole Mae F.
PAUL, Monita P.
RABANG, Katelyn A.
SANCHEZ, Ma. Charlie V.
YAMAGATA-SANTOS, Danielle Jaden K.

8th GRADE

ATTAO, Alyssa Marie P.
CHOI, Eun Seo
CUNANAN, Erika Gabrielle D.
JUN, Angela
KIM, Yu Mi
OCAMPO, Justin Gerald P.
TABORA, Earl Daivick B.
TERLAJE, Maria Lael G.

9th GRADE

CABANTING, Amy Rose B.
CALAGE, Cliare S.
FLORES, Quina S.
HAHN, Jonah B.
MANIBUSAN, Tawnie D.
MENDIOLA, Erika Marie R.
SALAS, Darian Jacob D.
VILLACRUSIS, Geuel Christian M.
VILLAGOMEZ, Jehnifer T.
YUN, Seok Jun

10th GRADE

CASTRO, Jose Antonio P.
MINAMI, Edward Yuuki
TRAVILLA, Jan-Nasia Jean B.

11th GRADE

AMOG, Quinn Ely E.
HIRAYAMA, Risa
JO, Hyun Woo
KIM, Min Gyu
KWON, So Hyun (Cynthia)
PAK, Han Byeol
SOLEDAD, Jaime A.
TAKAHASHI, Mikiya
TOVES, Markel Retan

12th GRADE

AHN, Sung Min
DEL ROSARIO, Enrico Dominic T.
ROXAS, John Dexter V.
YAMAGATA, Raymond Kenji A.

Business

Twitter's twists and turns—can it keep flying?

NEW YORK (AP)—The Pope is on Twitter, along with the Dalai Lama, world leaders and, of course, Kim Kardashian.

The short-messaging service can bring fleeting fame, instant ignominy and get you fired. It has been credited for sparking revolutions and, like Facebook, transforming the way the world communicates.

But despite the buzz generated by thousands of chatty journalists, athletes and celebrities, Twitter has never turned a profit. Its user base of 302 million is dwarfed by rivals such as Facebook, which counts 1.44 billion.

Facebook has grown into an Internet powerhouse, while Twitter in many aspects remains a niche social network, unable to convince the masses that they need its service to keep up with what's happening in the world. Lots of people sign up but not a lot stick around.

That likely had much to do with last week's announced exit of Twitter Inc. CEO Dick Costolo, who gave way to co-founder, and former CEO, Jack Dorsey while the San Fran-



This Nov. 4, 2013 file photo shows the icon for the Twitter app on an iPhone in San Jose, Calif.

lengthy critique of the service and posted it online this month. Sacca suggested the service could offer more features to engage visitors—including special channels or tabs focused on live events, topics of interest or even a user's geographic location. He also recommended more “nudges,” including feedback, polls and other interactive features that would make newcomers feel less “lonely.”

DEAL WITH TROLLS

Twitter has long had a problem with trolls, the online bullies and blowhards whose abuse has been an ongoing issue that has alienated established and potential users. It has tried to make it easier to report threats and in April updated its policy against violent threats to include not just specific threats but people promoting violence against others. It's too early to say if this has helped.

MORE APPS AND OPTIONS

Twitter is well-known around the globe, but it must do more to capitalize on its own brand, said Brian Blau, a tech analyst at the Gartner research firm. Twitter could be offering users more specialized apps for various activities, in the way that

Facebook has built a stable of apps for messaging, consuming news and sharing photos, he said. Twitter's Periscope app, which lets users share live video, is an example of “exactly the kind of thing Twitter should be doing,” Blau added. But he noted that Facebook, Snapchat and other companies have invested heavily in direct-messaging capabilities, which can make money by showing ads, selling animated adornments or enabling users to play one-on-one games. Twitter, meanwhile, has only tinkered around the edges of its direct-messaging function.

DEMONSTRATE STRENGTHS TO ADVERTISERS

Twitter knows something about its users' interests, but Facebook knows far more about its users' likes and habits, while Google and Pinterest can more readily predict what users might want to buy. That, coupled with Twitter's slowing user growth, has made advertisers are more likely to spend their money on other sites, analysts say. Twitter's strength, however, is drawing people's attention during live events, such as sports championships, breaking news and popular television shows, said Debra Aho Williamson at the eMarketer research firm. Reaching casual users on a routine basis is harder, but Twitter may succeed if it can “engage advertisers in that ‘real-time’ story,” she said.

cisco company looks for a new leader.

Despite the executive turmoil and a stock price that has fallen 30 percent since late April, industry experts—not to mention loyal users—see potential in the company.

But first it needs to address some of its biggest problems.

Here are some of Twitter's most pressing challenges, along with possible fixes.

WHERE ARE THE USERS?

Its user growth is stalling and there are a lot of competitors. Besides its old rival Facebook, Twitter is feeling the heat from mobile messaging apps such

as WhatsApp, Line and Viber, not to mention Snapchat, Instagram and a bevy of others only your cool middle-school niece might have heard of. Twitter grew from 204 million active users in the first quarter of 2013, to 255 million a year later and 302 million in the first three months of 2015. In comparison, Facebook-owned WhatsApp announced in April that it has reached 800 million monthly active users.

MAKE IT EASIER TO USE

Almost one billion users have tried Twitter and not stuck around, according to tech investor Chris Sacca, a longtime Twitter backer who wrote a

Dropping team member with management buddies will require a careful approach

Q: As a project manager, I'm having difficulty with a very disruptive team member. “Donald” argues about everything and sends insulting emails to anyone who disagrees with him. He is extremely critical and makes frequent derogatory remarks about his colleagues' contributions. Ironically, his own work is consistently mediocre.

Donald often refers to this project as a complete waste of time. He skips many meetings and refuses to help implement any decision with which he disagrees. His lack of participation has increased the workload for everyone else. Whenever I bring up these issues, Donald just ignores me.

This is a cross-functional team with members from different departments, so no one reports directly to me. When I talked with Donald's boss, he said I should “learn to live with it,” because Donald is a long-term employee with friends in senior management. What can I do about this?

A: You are not alone in your frustration, because project management can be extremely challenging. Although project managers are responsible for delivering results, they typically have no authority over those doing the work. This combination can create a lot of difficulties.

An effective project team

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By **MARIE G. MCINTYRE**
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of *Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.



requires members who can deliver quality work and develop collaborative relationships. Given that Donald is apparently doing neither, the ideal solution would be to remove him from the team altogether. But since you can't make that decision unilaterally, you must talk with the manager who has overall responsibility for this project.

For example: “I need to let you know that Donald is seriously interfering with the work of our team. He has no interest in the project and constantly complains that it's a waste of time. He refuses to do many tasks and is very insulting to other team members. Since he clearly doesn't want to participate, I would like to remove him from the group.”

Depending on your organization's structure and political climate, you may need to involve other managers in this decision. But if you make your case strongly enough, you will hopefully be allowed to oust this troublemaker and find a more productive replacement.

Q: My manager and I are supposed to have lunch when he returns from vacation next week. He was recently promoted from a sales position, and I just joined the company last month, so we are both new to our jobs. I'm hoping to make a good impression, but I can't think of much to talk about. Do you have any suggestions?

A: The best way to initiate conversation is by asking appropriate questions. As a brand new employee, you undoubtedly have a lot to learn about your job, your colleagues, and the company. Since most managers enjoy discussing business, your boss should be glad to provide that information.

If your manager is a sociable type, you might also inquire about family, hobbies, his recent vacation, or anything else that is not too personal. Actually, though, you may not have much to worry about. Because salespeople tend to be very outgoing, getting them to start talking is often easier than getting them to stop.

Maine lobster marketers look to re-brand 'shedders' as treat

KENNEBUNK, Maine (AP)—When Maine's lobsters start shedding their shells, restaurant owner Steve Kingston goes to the docks with a message for lobstermen: bring 'em to me.

“They definitely have a much saltier, brinier taste,” said Kingston, who runs a Kennebunk restaurant called The Clam Shack that goes through a half-ton of lobsters per day in the summer. “We're a softshell house.”

Kingston is among a group of people in Maine's lifeblood seafood industry trying to make the coming season the summer of shedders. The Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative, a group funded by the state's lobster fishermen, dealers and processors, is launching a push to re-brand recently-molted lobsters as a regional treat that deserves more attention from chefs, restaurants and vacationing tourists.

Newly-molted lobsters, sometimes called “shedders” in New England, are crustaceans that have recently grown out of their old shells. Shedders tend



A lobster is checked to determine if it is a hard shell or a “shedder”, a recently molted lobster that is growing back its shell, at the Clam Shack in Kennebunkport, Maine, Friday, June 12, 2015.

to cost a little less than harder or “old shell” lobsters at restaurants and lobster pounds that sell both. The collaborative is rechristening shedders as “Maine new shell lobsters” and marketing them as a unique Maine treat—sweeter in flavor than hard shell lobsters, and easier to prepare because of their tender flesh.

The push is coming partially out of necessity as Maine's lob-

ster industry, by far the largest in the nation, deals with a glut of product on the market in recent years that has depressed prices somewhat. Maine's lobster catch has topped 100 million pounds for four straight years. The price per pound at the dock has fallen from \$3.47 from 2007 to 2010 to \$3.11 since 2011, motivating some dealers to seek new markets for lobsters.

Nation

Prosecutor says escaped killers used contractors' tools

DANNEMORA, N.Y. (AP)—The two killers who cut their way out of a maximum-security prison apparently used tools routinely stored there by contractors, taking care to return them to their toolboxes after each night's work so that no one would notice, a prosecutor said Sunday.

District Attorney Andrew Wylie also said that Joyce Mitchell, the prison tailoring shop instructor charged with helping the men escape, had agreed to pick them up in her car and drive off with them but backed out at the last minute because she still loved her husband and felt guilty for participating.

"Basically, when it was go-time and it was the actual day of the event, I do think she got cold feet and realized, 'What am I doing?'" Wylie said. "Reality struck. She realized that, really, the grass wasn't greener on the other side."

Wylie said there was no evidence the men had a "Plan B" once the getaway driver backed out, and no vehicles have been



A law enforcement helicopter aids in the search for escaped prisoners David Sweat and Richard Matt on Sunday, June 14, 2015, in Saranac, N.Y.

been scouting out the tunnel system under the prison at night for the best way get out.

The convicts used power tools to cut through the back of their adjacent cells, broke through a brick wall, then cut into a steam pipe and slithered through it, finally emerging outside the prison walls through a manhole, authorities said.

Workers on Sunday welded shut a manhole at the base of a wall on the side of the prison where the two men escaped. They also sealed two other manholes on the street near prison, including the one the convicts climbed out of.

Mitchell, 51, was charged Friday with supplying hacksaw blades, chisels, a punch and a screwdriver. Her lawyer entered a not guilty plea on her behalf, and her son Tobey told NBC she would not have helped the inmates break out.

Wylie said Sunday the two inmates planned to have Mitchell drive them about seven hours away to an unknown destination.

Residents were very much on edge, with some saying they were keeping guns handy. But there was also an outpouring of support for the search effort. A restaurant urged people to tie blue ribbons around trees and mailboxes.

"The locals have been awesome," said Sgt. Barry Cartier of the Franklin County Sheriff's Department, part of a crew from a neighboring county working 12-hour shifts. "They come around with food all the time. We've got too much to eat."

Clinton: Obama should use trade fight to his advantage

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—Hillary Rodham Clinton said Sunday that President Barack Obama should use a setback in Congress to seek the best possible trade agreement with 11 other Pacific Rim nations, pointing to the stumbles over the pact as an opportunity to address Democrats' concerns about job protections and wages.

"Let's take the lemons and turn it into lemonade," Clinton told more than 700 supporters at the Iowa State Fairgrounds, addressing the controversial Trans Pacific Partnership trade proposal that has splintered Obama from House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi and rank-and-file Democrats.

Courting Iowa voters, Clinton sought to address Democratic opponents of the trade legislation, including liberals and labor unions, who have said the Obama-backed plan will cost U.S. jobs. The agreement has not been finalized or submitted

International trade

Top 5 countries for imports and exports with the U.S., in billions of dollars in 2014

Imports

China	\$466.8 billion
Canada	347.8
Mexico	294.1
Japan	134.0
Germany	123.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Exports

Canada	312.4
Mexico	240.2
China	123.7
Japan	66.8
U.K.	53.8

Graphic: Tribune News Service

to Congress.

Clinton sought to distance herself from Obama, urging him to listen to Pelosi and Democrats "to make sure we get the best, strongest deal possible. And if we don't get it, there should be no deal."

"I have held my peace be-

cause I thought it was important for the Congress to have a full debate without thrusting presidential politics and candidates into it," Clinton said at a house party in Burlington, Iowa. "But now I think the president and his team could have a chance to drive a harder bargain."

Texas planners look to aquifers to prepare for next drought

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP)—The torrential storms of last month essentially ended one of Texas' worst-ever droughts, but much of the excess water has already flowed into the Gulf of Mexico or will evaporate by year's end.

With a wary eye toward the next prolonged dry-streak that inevitably will come, some think expanding the use of underground aquifers may help slake the thirst of Texas' rapidly growing population.

Three trillion gallons of water gushed from swollen Texas

rivers into the Gulf of Mexico in May, and another 2 trillion gallons will likely evaporate from state reservoirs by year's end. Combined, the lost water would be enough to serve Texas' booming population for an entire year.

If widely implemented, aquifer storage and recovery would be among the major additions to the state's water infrastructure since scores of reservoirs were built following the historic drought of the 1950s.

Aquifers are naturally oc-

curing underground layers of rock that can hold vast amounts of water, which can be brought to the surface by pumping or through natural means, such as springs. Some are replenished easily through natural means, such as streams and seepage, while others recharge more slowly but can be replenished manually with pumped-in water. One major benefit of aquifers is that their water doesn't evaporate, which makes them an ideal water source in warmer climates.

reported stolen in the area.

That has led searchers to believe the men are still near the Clinton Correctional Facility in Dannemora, where the manhunt was in its ninth day Sunday, with hundreds of law enforcement officers slogging through mosquito-infested woods, fields and swamps close to the Canadian border for Richard Matt and David Sweat.

At the same time, Gov. Andrew Cuomo cautioned that for all anyone knows, the convicts

could be in Mexico by now.

Wylie said it apparently took a long time for the killers to complete their plan, working methodically between midnight and 5 a.m. over many nights.

"They had access, from what we understand, to other tools left in the facility by contractors under policy and were able to open the toolboxes and use those tools and then put them back so nobody would notice," the prosecutor said.

He also said the men had

ACROSS THE NATION

Trial set for man accused of killing and dismembering dancer

GRETNA, La. (AP)—Trial is set to open Monday for a man accused of killing a New Orleans' French Quarter stripper, dismembering her and dumping body parts of the woman into the Gulf of Mexico. Terry Speaks is charged with second-degree murder along with his then-girlfriend, Margaret Sanchez, in the death of 24-year-old Jaren Lockhart. Remains of Lockhart, a Bourbon Street dancer, washed ashore on neighboring Mississippi beaches days after her June 2012 disappearance. The judge is expected first to consider Speaks' request to fire his public defender, John Benz, and consider whether defense lawyers can tell jurors about the criminal history of two prosecution witnesses, both jailhouse informants set to testify against Speaks. Any decisions by District Judge Stephen Grefer in a suburban New Orleans are court in Gretna could prompt a trial delay. Speaks has pleaded

not guilty in the case. Conviction on the charge would mean a mandatory life sentence.

2 teens are severely injured in shark attacks in N. Carolina

OAK ISLAND, N.C. (AP)—Two teenagers were seriously injured in two separate shark attacks in the same North Carolina town on Sunday, terrifying beach goers and prompting one shocked witness to compare the scene to the movie "Jaws." Oak Island Mayor Betty Wallace told WECT-6 that the first victim, a girl, lost part of her arm and could lose her left leg. Just over an hour later, a 16-year-old boy also was attacked by a shark and was airlifted to a hospital, Wallace said. He lost an arm. "I saw someone carry this girl (out of the water) and people were swarming around and trying to help," Steve Bouser, who was just beginning his week-long beach vacation, told The Associated Press. "It was quite terrible." The girl was bleeding heavily, and people

applied makeshift tourniquets while asking her questions to try to keep her conscious.

Tiny tuna crabs wash up in masses on Orange County beaches

DANA POINT, Calif. (AP)—Tiny tuna crabs have been washing up by the thousands on some Orange County beaches. The Orange County Register reports that the crustaceans, which look like tiny lobsters or crawfish, created a bright red rim along the shoreline of Dana Point, San Clemente, Newport Beach and Huntington Beach on Sunday. Experts say the 1- to 3-inch long crabs, which normally live off Mexico's Baja Peninsula, are going farther north because of the warm water that has lingered off Southern California for the past year. In recent weeks, blue, jellyfish-like creatures known as "by-the-wind sailors" have been spotted, and tropical fish such as yellowtail and Bluefin tuna are showing up earlier than normal this year.

Asia

Thousands rally as HK braces for democracy showdown

HONG KONG (AP)—Thousands of people, many holding yellow umbrellas, marched in Hong Kong on Sunday to urge lawmakers to vote down Beijing-backed election reforms that sparked huge street protests last year, although the turnout was lower than organizers had expected.

With a crucial vote on the southern Chinese financial hub's political future days away, pro-democracy supporters marched to city government headquarters to rally support for a veto of the government's electoral reform package.

At issue is how Hong Kongers will choose their top leader, who's currently hand-picked by a panel of Beijing-friendly elites. Under the reforms to be put before lawmakers starting Wednesday, the government proposal would allow direct elections for the first time but also require screening of candidates by the panel.

Pro-democracy activists—who caught the world's attention last autumn by occupying parts of the city for 11 weeks to demand greater electoral freedom, turning umbrellas and the color yellow into symbols of their movement—have blasted the proposals as “sham democracy” and called for genuine universal suffrage.

The organizers of the protest, including the Civil Human Rights Front, student groups and pro-democracy political parties, estimated that 3,500 people took part, far less than the 50,000 expected. Police said 3,140 joined.

People marching in the blazing afternoon heat chanted “I want genuine democracy” and “Veto fake universal suffrage.” A large yellow banner

AP
A protester carries placard during a rally outside government headquarter as people march in a downtown street to support for a veto of the government's electoral reform package in Hong Kong, Sunday, June 14, 2015.

mounted on a truck read “The citizens against pseudo-universal suffrage campaign.”

“I hope that they will bring out another proposal that can be accepted by Hong Kong people,” said Louis Cheung, a 54-year-old writer. “It's impossible to have an election without the Hong Kong public's opinion and say Hong Kong has universal suffrage. This is impossible to accept.”

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei said Friday that the proposal was “in line with Hong Kong's current circumstances, taking into account the interests of and appeals from different social groups and sectors in Hong Kong.”

Authorities had been bracing for renewed tensions, fearing that protesters would again try to occupy roads, though organizers have ruled out such action. On Saturday, police removed objects such as bricks and metal bars from protesters' tents outside the government complex.

Last year's student-led protest movement caught the world's attention with its mostly peaceful street demonstrations. Protesters said China was reneging on a promise that the city's top leader would be chosen through “universal suffrage” agreed when Communist leaders negotiated the 1997 handover of Hong Kong from Britain.



China's senior officials find comfort in mythical masters

BEIJING (AP)—The former Chinese security czar recently convicted of leaking state secrets did not pass classified documents to a foreign spy or a political rival.

Rather, Zhou Yongkang, a former member of the all-powerful Standing Committee of the ruling Communist Party's Politburo, shared the documents with his qigong master, who claims supernatural abilities, according to a verdict made public last week and which also convicted Zhou of massive corruption.

It's the latest example of a twisted relationship between the leadership of the party, which nominally espouses atheism, and spirituality.

Before Zhou, many senior party cadres and government officials were reported to have sought help and blessings from qigong masters, feng-shui experts, and Buddhist and Taoist monks. Golden Buddha statues

are coveted gifts for those in power. Former Chinese President Jiang Zemin is an avid temple-goer.

“The reason is clear—communism is dead,” said Willy Lam, an expert on China's elite politics at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. “It's natural for cadres to turn to superstitious beliefs to ward off evil and to help them avoid the pitfalls in the cunning corridors of (politics).”

It's no secret that many Communist leaders believe in Buddhism or Christianity, said Cheng Li, director of the John L. Thornton China Center at Washington-based think tank Brookings Institute.

“They go to temples, and some are closet Christians,” Li said. “It's not surprising in a country with a spiritual vacuum.”

Qigong, a traditional practice of breathing, gentle body movements and meditation, has legit-

imate health benefits, Li added. “When you have money and power, what else do you want? Longevity and health. That's human nature,” he said.

Superstition also is common among Chinese officials, with examples including hanging a sword to keep disciplinary inspectors away, erecting a basin in front of a government building in hope of amassing wealth, and tearing up a road to ward off bad luck.

The practice of Communist Party members taking interest in supernatural powers has drawn stern criticism from China's political conservatives.

“Corruption is only a matter of course when officials abandon Marxism and Leninism for ghosts and spirits,” Sima Nan, a political conservative, wrote on his microblog account. “Now the party has distanced itself from atheism for so long as to allow (qigong masters) to have a good life.”

Sima has long been trying to expose qigong masters with uncanny abilities as common. In another post, he said corrupt officials and the masters have a symbiotic relationship.

“The masters provide psychological messages to corrupt officials, who in turn provide protection for the masters,” he wrote.

In the latest revelation, the confidante for Zhou—a once-feared security czar who oversaw China's vast police and security apparatus—has been identified as Cao Yongzheng, a middle-aged man who gained a reputation as a semi-immortal for his supernatural powers in the late 1980s.

Cao even got the endorsement from a reporter at the party-run People's Daily, who wrote that Cao could tell one's past, present and future by merely looking at that person's photo, and that he possessed powers such as the ability to cure infertility.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Former China Communist Party official Qiao Shi dies at 91

BEIJING (AP)—Qiao Shi, a senior Communist Party official and chairman of China's legislature in the 1990s, died Sunday at the age of 91, state media reported. Qiao died Sunday morning in Beijing of an unspecified illness for which he was being treated, the official Xinhua News Agency said. For 10 years starting in 1987, Qiao was a member of China's top leadership panel, the Politburo Standing Committee, at a time when the Communist Party was led by Zhao Ziyang and then Jiang Zemin. Qiao also served as chairman of China's top legislature, the National People's Congress, from 1993 to 1998.

Afghan official: Roadside bomb kills 4 as insurgency spreads

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—An Afghan official says four people, including a district chief, have been killed by a roadside bomb in a region of northern Afghanistan that has been largely peaceful until now. Senatullah Tumor, the spokesman for the governor of northern Takhar province, said Sunday that the bomb killed Hamidullah Haqjo Ashkamesh, chief of the Ishkashim district, as well as a police officer and two of his bodyguards. The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack. The Taliban's 14-year insurgency has spread in recent months from its strongholds in the south to northern Afghanistan. Meanwhile in southern Kandahar province, police say a roadside bomb killed a woman and wounded three people in the province's Khakrez district.

Pakistan halts ordered closure of Save the Children office

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistan's Interior Ministry has halted an order it made closing the office of the international aid group Save the Children in Islamabad, an official said Sunday.

The senior Interior Ministry official, who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity as he wasn't authorized to discuss the decision, did not elaborate.

Saeed Ahmed, a spokesman for Save the Children in Pakistan, said they had no word from the government on the decision. “We would appreciate rel-

evant government authorities to communicate to us officially,” Ahmed told the AP.

On Thursday, Pakistan shuttered the group's main office in the capital for allegedly “violating its charter.” By Friday, the organization had shut all its offices across the country.

At the time, Pakistan said it would not allow any non-government organization to work against its interests, without elaborating. The group has said it received no prior warning before its office was closed, saying it had worked in Pakistan

for over 35 years and that it had 1,200 employees nationwide—none of them a foreign national.

The U.S. State Department has expressed concern over the closure.

Save the Children's Pakistan operations have been under intense scrutiny due to a local belief that the organization was somehow connected to the May 2, 2011, killing of al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden. A vaccination campaign, run by a Pakistani doctor, was used by the CIA to obtain DNA samples in the city of Abbottabad, where

bin Laden had been hiding in a secured compound.

A Save the Children employee in Islamabad has told the AP that the doctor, Shakil Afridi, had twice attended training workshops organized by the group in 2009 and 2010 to train Pakistani doctors about the health care needs of children and mothers. The employee described Afridi as merely one of “more than 1,000 doctors” who took part. The employee spoke at the time on condition of anonymity as he wasn't authorized to talk to journalists.

World

Thousands of Syrians flee into Turkey amid intense fighting

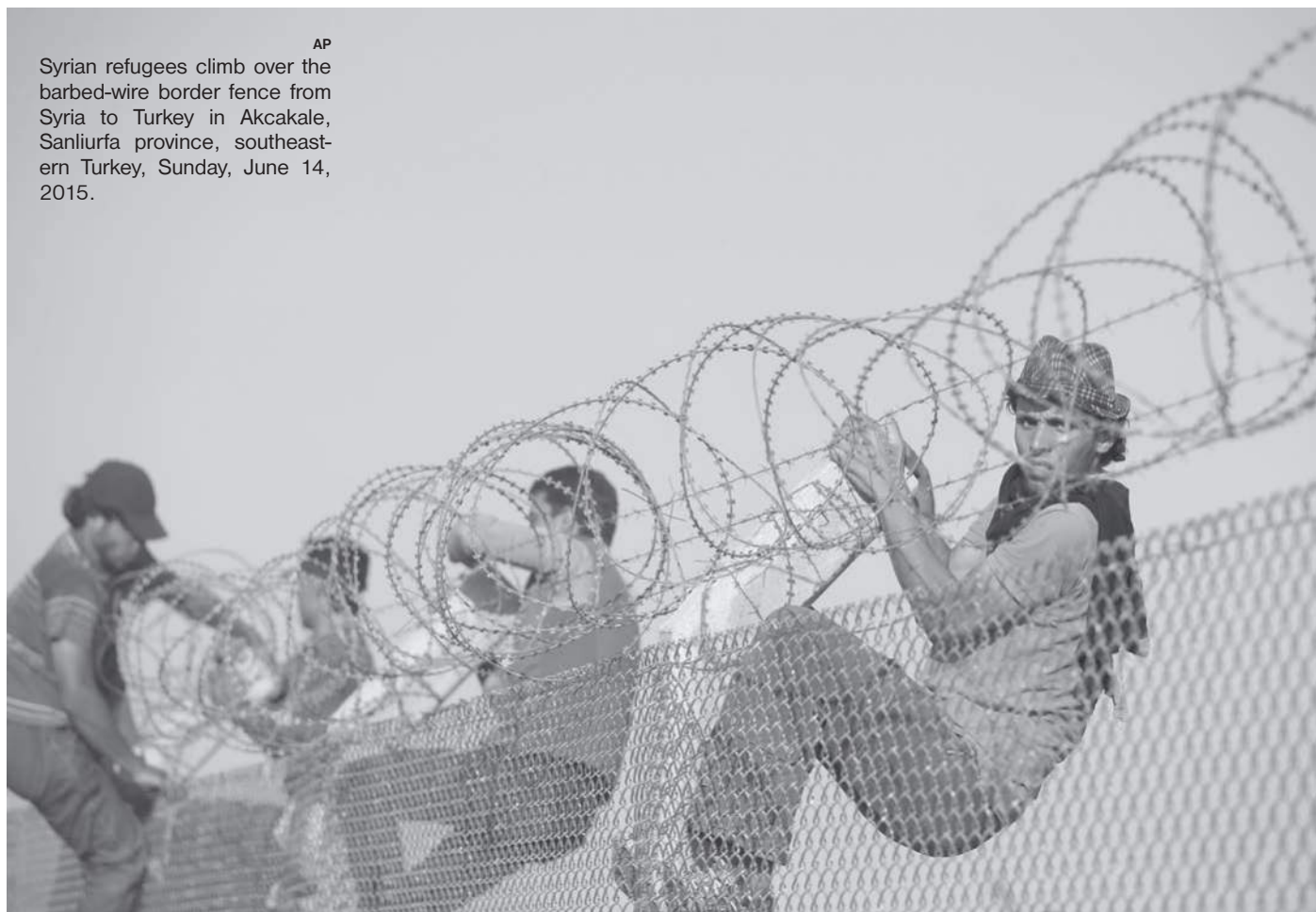
AKCAKALE, Turkey (AP)—Thousands of Syrians cut through a border fence and crossed over into Turkey on Sunday, fleeing intense fighting in northern Syria between Kurdish fighters and jihadists.

The flow of refugees came as Syrian Kurdish fighters closed in on the outskirts of a strategic Islamic State-held town on the Turkish border, Kurdish officials and an activist group said, potentially cutting off a key supply line for the extremists' nearby de facto capital.

Taking Tal Abyad, some 80 kilometers (50 miles) north of the Islamic State stronghold of Raqqa, would deprive the militant group of a direct route to bring in new foreign militants or supplies. The Kurdish advance, coming under the cover of intense U.S.-led coalition airstrikes in the area, would also link their two fronts and put even more pressure on Raqqa.

In this Turkish border village, the refugees took by surprise the Turkish troops stationed there, who were overwhelmed by the large number of people crowding the crossing. Thousands of people had been gathering for more than a day on the Syrian side of the Akcakale border crossing before they broke through Sunday afternoon.

People threw their belongings over the fence while others passed infants into Turkey over barbed wires before following through a several-meter wide



AP
Syrian refugees climb over the barbed-wire border fence from Syria to Turkey in Akcakale, Sanliurfa province, southeastern Turkey, Sunday, June 14, 2015.

opening in the border fence.

Turkish troops later brought in reinforcements and gathered up the refugees on the Turkish side of the border, preventing them from going deeper into Turkey.

Earlier Sunday, Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Numan Kurtulmus speaking on the refugee situation at the crossing between in Tal Abyad and Akcakale, claimed that those refu-

gees were not fleeing fighting between Kurds and the Islamic State group, but were rather trying to escape to Turkey in case their villages are hit by U.S.-led coalition bombings.

He said Turkey was providing humanitarian aid to them on the other side of the border while taking in anyone who is sick or injured. Kurtulmus said Turkey has taken in more than 2

million refugees since 2011.

"We are of the opinion that there isn't a humanitarian tragedy there," Kurtulmus told CNN-Turk television in an interview. "Our priority is for them to remain within their border. We will continue to provide humanitarian aid to them"

Hours after Kurtulmus spoke, Turkey reversed its decision and opened the border to allow more

of the refugees in, the state-run Anadolu Agency reported. It said however that this time, Islamic State group militants at

the border prevented them from crossing into Turkey.

It put the number of people who were waiting to cross at around 2,500. Around 13,400 Syrians have fled to Turkey since June 1, the agency said.

On Sunday, Kurdish official Idriss Naasan said that Islamic State fighters have fled from Suluk, a few kilometers (miles) southwest of Tal Abyad, and that Kurds now hold the town. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights also said Islamic State fighters had withdrawn. The Observatory said the Kurds are about 5 kilometers (3 miles) from Tal Abyad.

The Observatory reported later that Kurdish fighters captured more villages near Tal Abyad on Sunday adding that jihadists blew up to bridges southeast and southwest of the town to prevent them from pushing forward.

"It's only a matter of time before this area is liberated," Naasan told The Associated Press by telephone from northern Syria, saying the Kurds surround Tal Abyad from the east, west and south. The Turkish border—and the soldiers there—now hem the extremists in from the north.

US airstrike targets al-Qaida-linked militant in Libya

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. military launched weekend airstrikes targeting and likely killing an al-Qaida-linked militant leader in eastern Libya who has been charged with leading the attack on a gas plant in Algeria in 2013 that killed at least 35 hostages, including three Americans.

The Libyan government said warplanes targeted and killed Mokhtar Belmokhtar and several others in eastern Libya. A U.S. official said two F-15 fighter jets launched multiple

500-pound bombs in the attack. The official was not authorized to discuss the details of the attack publicly so spoke on condition of anonymity.

U.S. officials said they are still assessing the results of the Saturday strike, but Pentagon spokesman Col. Steve Warren said the military believes the strike was successful and hit the target. Neither U.S. officials nor the Libyan government provided proof of Belmokhtar's death, which likely requires a DNA test or an announcement

by Belmokhtar's group that he was killed.

Officials said there were no U.S. personnel on the ground for the assault.

The U.S. filed terrorism charges in 2013 against Belmokhtar in connection with the Algeria attack. Officials have said they believe he remained a threat to U.S. and Western interests. Belmokhtar, an Algerian in his 40s, had just split off from al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb, or AQIM, to start his own franchise.

Belmokhtar has a long history of leading terrorist activities as a member of AQIM, is the operational leader of the al Qaida-associated Al Murabitun organization in Northwest Africa, and maintains his personal allegiance to al-Qaida, Warren said.

The Libyan government in a statement Sunday said that the strike targeting Belmokhtar came after consultation with the U.S. so that America could take action against a terror leader there.

Greek bailout talks end without breakthrough in Brussels

BRUSSELS (AP)—The European Commission said Sunday that weekend talks to find common ground between international creditors and Greece were unsuccessful and left a wide rift that needs to be closed within two weeks to avoid a possible Greek default.

An EU Commission official, who refused to be identified because of the sensitivity of the negotiations, said that "the talks did not succeed as there remains a significant gap between the plans of the Greek authorities and" the demands of the inter-

national creditors.

On top of that, the official said that, for the EU's executive, "the Greek proposals remain incomplete." The official refused to be more precise.

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker "remains convinced that with stronger reform efforts on the Greek side and political will on all sides, a solution can still be found before the end of the month," the official said.

Finance ministers from the 19 nations using the euro currency have a meeting next Thursday

in Luxembourg which has already been billed as decisive to see if a bailout deal for Greece can be found.

The rift after the weekend's talks amounted to "the order of 0.5-1 percentage of GDP," the EU official said.

Greek Deputy Prime Minister Yannis Dragasakis said disagreements remained over the cuts in pensions and increases in value added tax.

However, he said Greece has made "supplementary proposals that totally cover the fiscal gap and primary surpluses" and

open "the way to a final deal."

Greece's 240 billion-euro (\$270 billion) bailout expires June 30, at which point the country will lose access to the rescue loans it desperately needs to repay debts and avoid a default that could force it out of the euro.

The country's creditors—which include fellow eurozone states, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund—want the country to commit to new economic reforms before they disburse the last 7.2 billion euros (\$8.2 billion) left in Greece's bailout fund.

Zoo animals escape in midst of flooding in former Soviet republic

TBILISI, Georgia (AP)—Severe flooding in the Georgian capital left at least 12 people dead Sunday and triggered a big-game hunt across the city for lions, tigers, a hippopotamus and other dangerous animals that escaped from Tbilisi's ravaged zoo.

Residents were warned to stay indoors as police conducted the hunt, but fear deepened as night fell on the city of 1.1 million with some of the animals still on the loose.

"The daytime wasn't bad," said resident Khariton Gabashvili, "but tonight everyone has to be very careful because all the beasts haven't been captured. They haven't been fed, and in their hungry state they might attack people."

Heavy rain turned a normally pleasant city stream into a fierce torrent that destroyed or damaged hundreds of homes in the former Soviet republic. Officials said 12 people were known to have died and about two dozen others were missing.

There were no immediate reports that any of the dead were killed by the animals, which ran off after the floodwaters destroyed their enclosures. Among the beasts that escaped were bears, wolves and monkeys.

A hippopotamus—an ex-

tremely aggressive animal with the ability to run faster than humans in short bursts—was spotted lumbering through a flooded square not far from the zoo and was shot with a tranquilizer dart. Other animals were hunted down and killed.

The carcasses of at least a lion, a boar and a tiger were seen, and zoo authorities said six wolves were also dead.

Authorities said the animals may have fled to just about any corner of Tbilisi, including the forests on the steep hills in the city's heart.

"I feel frenzied. The youngsters can't go out and walk around. I sat on the balcony with them and played games, so they could breathe some fresh air," said 25-year-old Khatuna Bolkvadze, a mother of two who lives near the zoo.

Zoo spokeswoman Mzia Sharashidze said a count of the escaped animals was not immediately possible because so many of the zoo's enclosures were under water. But she said five lions were unaccounted for and many monkeys had escaped.

Three zoo workers were found dead on its grounds, including a woman who less than a month ago lost an arm in a tiger attack. Her husband was also reported dead.

Overdrive

AUTO REVIEWBy **LARRY PRINTZ**
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

If I would ask you what attributes make for a really great sports car, most likely you'd reply, "a powerful motor, aggressive styling and two doors." If you're a motorhead, you might add, "not to mention rear-wheel drive and a manual transmission."

So you might wonder how Nissan can get away with calling their flagship, the Nissan Maxima, a four-door sports car, also known by the acronym 4DSC. After all, the new Maxima has four doors, not two. And while it has a powerful V-6 engine and distinctively aggressive styling, the Maxima funnels its power to the front wheels through a continuously variable automatic transmission. There's even a foot-operated parking brake.

Not that there's anything wrong with that; the formula has led Nissan to sell 2.9 million Maximas since 1981. So, sure, the Maxima must be a real four-door sports car, right?

Well, it certainly looks the part.

The 2016 Maxima is 1.3 inches lower and 2.2 inches longer than the previous generation design. Nissan's aggressive new grille, bookended by boomerang framed headlamps, endows the assertive front end with a nationalistic identity anyone can recognize. Clearly, this is a Japanese car. The lines arch back into the body as the roof arcs over the passenger compartment, and a black rear roof pillar gives it the appearance of floating. The pillar also accentuates the rear haunch that bulges

upward to meet it. Someone seriously spiked the sake when this car was designed, but it makes for a car that stands apart. This daring design exercise recapitulates the extremes that American stylists once commonly used to entice buyers in the 1950s and 60s; it works well.

Climbing inside, you'll find a driver-oriented instrument panel; Nissan claims Blue Angel fighter planes inspired it. Perhaps. But fighter planes have inspired designers for decades, so this just reinforces that when it came to styling, Nissan played by time-tested rules. But Nissan's stylists used some new tricks as well, offering finishes that give the Maxima a feel of a pricier ride. Unique touches abound, such as the starter button that pulses when the driver enters the cabin, or the flat-bottomed steering wheel trimmed in Alcantara that feels comfortable during long drives. There are soft touch surfaces everywhere, including the edge of the center console where the driver's right leg rests as well as the center console lid. Accent stitching throughout the cabin enhances the premium feel, and most passengers will find the amount of space pleasing.

That certainly applies when it comes to the power under the hood. As before, Nissan uses its 3.5-liter V-6 engine, but the automaker has completely revised it, using 60 percent new parts. The engine is rated at 300 horsepower and 261 pound-feet of torque. It's matched with a continuously variable automatic transmission, which Nissan has

Is the 2016 Nissan Maxima a four-door sports car? Almost



dubbed Xtronic. Since the transmission lacks fixed ratios, as in other transmission, Nissan says that the Xtronic is always in the right gear at the right time. In addition, the Maxima also has a Drive Mode Selector with two modes, Sport and Normal. The system adjusts throttle response, transmission timing, steering feel and the exhaust note.

It adds up to a car that, while not a sports car, more than makes a case for being a credible sports sedan. With the DMS set to Sport, the steering feels lively, responsive, and is nicely weighted, although it does lack road feel. The engine responds with gusto, and the transmission is much more refined than any other CVT transmission. In fact, it's the best I've experienced.

Unlike most CVTs, which respond with a delayed, or rubber band feel, the Maxima's transmission responds as you'd expect, with the promptness of a performance-oriented automatic transmission or a well-engineered dual-clutch transmission; you just won't feel it shift. Things are a bit less exciting in Normal mode; the steering is light and it feels like a geezer pleaser. Engineers at Nissan would be wise to make the Sport the Normal mode, and make the Sport mode even sportier. Unfortunately, every time the car shuts off, the DMS resets to Normal. A better solution would be to have it remain in whatever mode it was left in.

Of course once underway,

you'll want to push this 4DSC around because the new platform expertly balances out the dual demands of a firm ride and occupant comfort. While it lacks the impact harshness of the Europeans, it does retain enough to make the car communicative while ensuring the body remains flat during cornering.

Braking comes courtesy of four-wheel power disc brakes that are equipped with anti-lock brakes, electronic brake force distribution and brake assist. Upper level SL, SR and Platinum models have additional safety features, including forward collision warning, intelligent cruise control, forward emergency braking, rear cross traffic alert and blind spot warning.

Nissan is not offering long

NUTS & BOLTS**2016 Nissan Maxima**

- Engine: 3.5-liter SOHC V-6
- Horsepower: 300
- Torque: 261 pound-feet
- Wheelbase: 109.3 inches
- Length: 192.8 inches
- Cargo volume: 14.3 cubic feet
- Curb weight: 3,471-3,593 pounds
- EPA rating (city/highway): 22/30 mpg
- Fuel type: Premium unleaded
- NHSTA safety rating: Not rated
- Base prices: \$32,410-\$39,860

lists of options. Instead each model, base S, SV, mid-level SL, sporty SR and top-of-the-line Platinum, have increasing levels of equipment. There are six factory installed: splash guards, illuminated kick plates, premium spoiler, sport spoiler (SR only), 19-inch summer tires with full-size aluminum-alloy wheel spare (SR only) and unique 18-inch alloy wheels.

But no matter which trim level you get, you'll find the Maxima to be a truly rewarding premium sedan.

Four-door sports car? That may be stretching a point. Four door sporty car? No doubt.

Larry Printz is automotive editor writer and editor in Burlington, Vt. Readers may send him email at TheDrivingPrintz@gmail.com.

UNDER THE HOOD:

How do noise cancellation systems work?

By **BRAD BERGHOLDT**
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Q: I didn't realize it until a friend told me, but my new car has noise cancellation. Can you explain how this works?—Paula Winters

A: Active noise cancellation goes by several different names. Thanks to microchip advances, this cool technology has trickled down from luxury cars to the mainstream for an abundance of reasons. A noise cancellation system employs several microphones that listen for low frequency cabin sounds such as engine rumbling and tire and wind noise. A smart microprocessor then generates an acoustically opposite sound which is played back through the audio system speakers, canceling the noise.

Employing such a system allows for a reduction in heavy insulating material and works great to mitigate the sounds

made by lugging engines, but not occupant conversations and audio system music. To achieve optimum fuel economy, today's engines run slower and therefore rumble a bit more than one might like. Cylinder cancellation, done on many V-6 and V-8 engines also generates undesirable sounds and vibrations. Last but not least, battery electric vehicles generate practically no powertrain noise, making wind and tire noise lot more noticeable.

On a related note—and this may seem odd to some—a similar process is used by BMW, Porsche, and others to harvest desirable engine sounds and amplify them! Some allow the driver to tune the sound to their preference.

Q: I was just at the auto parts store and saw a tire repair kit that included some round strips and several tools with a handle. How and why

would you want to use one of these?—Willie Fredricks


A: Tire plugging kits are inexpensive and fairly easy to use to repair nail type punctures in a tubeless tire, but you'll also need a small compressor to refill the tire after the repair is completed. With some vehicles having a compact spare tire or no spare at all, carrying one of these kits and a lighter socket compressor onboard makes sense. I should add that a plug should never be used on the sidewall of a tire or if the injury is anything beyond a simple perpendicular slender puncture of the tread surface. Same case if the tire was driven on while seriously underinflated. Officially, but only rarely practiced, this should be considered a temporary repair, and the tire is later broken down for inspection and patching from the inside.

Using the kit involves opening the puncture slightly with

the spiral probe or rasp tool (depending on maker). Next, you would insert one of the rubber/yarn strips into the tweezer tipped installation tool (like a T), and press it into the puncture and withdraw the tool. The protruding plug stands are then cut off close to the tread surface. Some kits employ rubber cement while others go in dry. Pushing in the rasp and insertion tool can be difficult and is far easier if the tire is completely deflated. While I've had success with cheaper kits, Safety Seal is recognized as being the best. I also carry a can of sealer/inflator, but hesitate to use it as there will be considerable cursing when the tire is later removed/replaced!

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at [under-the-hood\(at\)earthlink.net](mailto:under-the-hood(at)earthlink.net); he cannot make personal replies.

First Death Anniversary



† Jack Tenorio Sablan

We, the family of the late **†Jack** would like to invite all our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the First Year Death Anniversary of our dearly beloved.

Mass of intention will be offered daily at 6:00am from June 17th to 25th at Mount Carmel Cathedral.

On the final day, June 25, 2015, Thursday, mass will be offered at 6:00am. Breakfast will be served at the Joeten Daidai Social Hall immediately after the mass.

Your prayers, thoughts and presence are sincerely appreciated.

Thank you, Un Dankulo na Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

Carla, Children & Family

Life & Style

‘Jurassic World’ bites off biggest global debut of all time

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Dinosaurs are anything but extinct at the box office.

“Jurassic World,” the fourth film in the series, became the highest global opener of all time with a staggering

\$511.8 million in its first days in theaters. It also devoured a number of domestic box office records with a \$204.6 million take, the Rentrak media-measurement company estimated on Sunday.

In addition to setting a record for 2015, “Jurassic World” is now the second-highest domestic opening of all time, right behind “Marvel’s The Avengers” which took in \$207.4 million in 2012. By the time Monday actuals roll in, there is a chance the film could dethrone “Avengers.”

It has been 14 years since there has been a new “Jurassic” film in theaters, and the combination of cinematic grandeur, nostalgia and awareness helped “Jurassic World” far surpass analyst predictions going into the weekend, which had the film on track for a \$125 million opening.

“This over-performed in a way that I’ve never seen,” Rentrak’s Senior Media Analyst Paul



This photo provided by Universal Pictures shows, Bryce Dallas Howard, from left, as Claire, Chris Pratt as Owen, Nick Robinson as Zach, and Ty Simpkins as Gray, in a scene from the film, “Jurassic World,” directed by Colin Trevorrow, in the next installment of Steven Spielberg’s groundbreaking “Jurassic Park” series.

Dergarabedian said. “It broke the box office sound barrier.”

Universal Pictures and Legendary co-financed the \$150 million, PG-13 rated film. Audiences in every quadrant turned out to see the film in theaters. According to exit polls, 39 percent were under the age of 25, signifying the massive interest of both a new generation and the continued enthusiasm of those who saw “Jurassic Park” in 1993.

Also, audiences shelled out

the extra money to see the film in the biggest format possible. About 48 percent of domestic audiences opted for 3D.

“It is extraordinary. The film has resonated with audiences around the world,” said Nick Carpou, Universal’s president of domestic distribution.

Directed by Colin Trevorrow and executive-produced by Steven Spielberg, “Jurassic World” is the third in a series of blockbusters for star Chris

Pratt, who also starred in the 2014 box office hits “Guardians of the Galaxy” and “The Lego Movie.”

“He’s like Jimmy Stewart with a leather vest and muscles,” Dergarabedian said. “He’s a great modern-day action hero.”

This is also likely not the last “Jurassic” film audiences will see. Pratt has stated in interviews that he has signed on for future installments. But right now, Universal is focusing on

what’s in theaters.

“Jurassic World” is just the latest hit for Universal in 2015, following “Fifty Shades of Grey” and “Furious 7.”

No studio even tried to compete with the unbeatable dinosaurs this weekend, and thus holdovers populated the rest of the top five. Melissa McCarthy’s “Spy” earned \$16 million in its second weekend in theaters, bringing its domestic total to \$56.9 million. “San Andreas”

added another \$11 million, and “Insidious Chapter 3” and “Pitch Perfect 2” took the fourth and fifth spots, with \$7.3 million and \$6 million, respectively.

The dino-sized debut of “Jurassic World” is of utmost importance to the industry, too, which has seen three consecutive down weekends in what was supposed to be a record-setting summer.

“We got the wind back in the summer sails,” said Dergarabedian, citing upcoming films like “Inside Out,” “Mission: Impossible-Rogue Nation” and “Ted 2” as some of the big films on the way. “This gets the summer back on track.”

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Rentrak. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

Rita Moreno dances with Cardinal Dolan at NYC parade

NEW YORK (AP)—Entertainer Rita Moreno took Roman Catholic Cardinal Timothy Dolan for a dancing spin Sunday in the middle of Fifth Avenue by St. Patrick’s Cathedral.

“Hallelujah! Bienvenidos a todos,” the cardinal yelled out to the Puerto Rican Day Parade crowd, meaning “welcome to all.”

At 83, atop a convertible car, Moreno was the grand marshal of the festivities that turned more than 1 million spectators into a sea of red, white and blue. Topped by a single star, they’re the colors of the Puerto Rican flag that also were splashed across 20,000 marchers moving up the avenue from 44th Street to 79th Street.

Puerto Rico’s governor, Alejandro Garcia Padilla, was followed by New York City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, a Puerto Rico native dancing to the pounding Latino soundtrack of the 58th



Jayda Vazquez, 12, left, and Kaylee Vazquez, 8, wave from atop a convertible in the procession as the annual National Puerto Rican Day Parade makes its way up New York’s Fifth Ave., Sunday, June 14, 2015.

annual parade.

Dolan, who is archbishop of the city’s Roman Catholic archdiocese, offered blessings to the mostly Catholic participants. Dolan then lifted his straw hat to reveal a red skullcap he plopped

onto the heads of several bemused boys.

Stephanie Placeres of Boston has been coming to New York for a dozen years to see the parade.

“We always stand here, at

the same spot in the 50s; I have a parking lot that I always go to, and there’s bathrooms right there in Trump Tower,” said Placeres, flanked by her husband, mother-in-law and three young children.

Crowd gathers in Honolulu to celebrate Jim Nabors’ birthday

HONOLULU (AP)—A celebration of actor Jim Nabors’ 85th birthday and 40th anniversary brought nearly 300 people to his Honolulu lawn.

Messages rolled in from across the country for the man who portrayed Gomer Pyle

on “The Andy Griffith Show.” The Honolulu Star-Advertiser reported (<http://bit.ly/1L61JKd>). Friday marked not only his birthday but the start of his 40th year with his now-husband, Stan Cadwallader.

Lt. Gen. John A. Toolan Jr.,

commanding general of the United States Marine Corps Forces, Pacific, delivered congratulations from President Barack Obama.

Meanwhile, Gov. David Ige said he represented the people of Hawaii when he designated

June 12 “Jim Nabors’ Day.”

Nabors, who also starred in the spinoff sitcom, “Gomer Pyle, U.S.M.C.,” is known as an ardent supporter of the U.S. Marine Corps. He is one only a handful of people to earn the official status of “Honorary Marine.”

1. “Jurassic World,” \$204.6 million (\$307.2 million international).
2. “Spy,” \$16 million (\$13.5 million international).
3. “San Andreas,” \$11 million (\$42.5 million international).
4. “Insidious Chapter 3,” \$7.3 million (\$6.7 million international).
5. “Pitch Perfect 2,” \$6 million (\$2 million international).
6. “Entourage,” \$4.3 million (\$1.8 million international).
7. “Mad Max: Fury Road,” \$4.1 million (\$5.4 million international).
8. “Avengers: Age of Ultron,” \$3.6 million (\$2 million international).
9. “Tomorrowland,” \$3.4 million (\$4.6 million international).
10. “Love & Mercy,” \$1.8 million (\$60,000 international).

- Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to Rentrak:
1. “Jurassic World,” \$307.2 million.
 2. “San Andreas,” \$42.5 million.
 3. “Spy,” \$13.5 million.
 4. “Insidious Chapter 3,” \$6.7 million.
 5. “Mad Max: Fury Road,” \$5.4 million.
 6. “Tomorrowland,” \$4.6 million.
 7. “Hamari Adhuri Kahaani,” \$4.1 million.
 8. “Stand by Me Doraemon,” \$4 million.
 9. “Pitch Perfect 2” and “Avengers: Age of Ultron,” \$2 million.
 10. “Entourage,” \$1.8 million.

1990s rapper MC Supreme killed in California car crash

MALIBU, Calif. (AP)—Rapper MC Supreme, best known for his 1990 single “Black In America,” has died in a car crash in Malibu.

The Los Angeles County coroner’s officials said 47-year-old Dwayne Coleman was killed Saturday when a pickup truck slammed into parked car on the shoulder Pacific Coast Highway.

Coleman was pronounced dead at the scene; a woman passenger in his car taken to a hos-

pital with unspecified injuries.

Coleman released “Black In America” on the compilation album “We’re All In the Same Gang.” It featured the hit anti-violence song that shares the album’s name by the West Coast Rap All-Stars.

Coleman’s sister, Irene, told City News Service her brother was dedicated to working with young people and steering them from gangs.

The pickup driver was arrested on suspicion of DUI.

American actor Dempsey finishes 2nd in Le Mans amateur race

LE MANS, France (AP)—Actor Patrick Dempsey finally got on the podium at the 24 Hours Le Mans endurance race, finishing second in the GTE Amateur category on Sunday.

The 49-year-old American, a long-time star of “Grey’s Anatomy,” was one of three drivers in the Dempsey-Proton Porsche 911 RSR team. They finished behind the winning Ferrari.

Dempsey is a huge motor-sports fan and was driving Le Mans for the fourth time, but this was his first top-three finish. He has also competed in the Rolex 24 at Daytona endurance race.

The actor was emotional when speaking to French television after the race.

“I think it’s hard to put into words how much it means to be on the podium in Le Mans. Phenomenal effort and support from Porsche,” Dempsey said. “It’s an amazing accomplishment, you al-



The Porsche 919 Hybrid No. 19 of the Porsche team races during the 24 Hours Le Mans endurance race, in Le Mans, western France, Sunday, June 14, 2015. AP

ways dream about moments like this. I’ve worked really hard over the last three years to make this happen and I’m here. Vive la France!”

Dempsey’s teammates were

countryman Patrick Long and Germany’s Marco Seefried.

Victor Shaitar, Andrea Bertolini and Aleksey Basov drove for the victorious Scuderia Corsa Ferrari.

The main race was won for a record 17th time by Porsche—its first victory since 1998. The winning car featured Formula One driver Nico Hulkenberg of Germany.

Carrie Underwood hits her stride at CMA Music Festival



AP
Carrie Underwood performs at LP Field at the CMA Music Festival on Saturday, June 13, 2015, in Nashville, Tenn.

show was a madhouse. “It was a chaotic, with cameras flashing and a gazillion fans,” Underwood said.

But her main worry was remembering the words to the song she was performing on-stage.

“I was singing with Phil Vassar, a song I did not know,” Underwood said. “I was like, ‘Oh Lord, don’t let me screw up the words.’ We somehow pulled it off OK.”

Now a decade later, Underwood has seven Grammy Awards and a handful of No. 1 singles on the country charts under her belt.

She’s a wife, a new mom, and a bona fide super star.

Underwood said her pregnancy allowed her to slow down and focus on new music instead of touring.

“I spent a lot of time writing and listening to new songs,” Underwood said. “I feel like now we’re on the right track and in a really good place.”

Before her sold-out performance at the 2015 CMA Music Festival Saturday night, Underwood admitted she was a bit nervous. It was her first big stadium show since giving birth to her son, Isaiah, back in February.

But when she hit the stage with her hit “Blown Away,” there was no sign of nerves. Strutting in her bejeweled hot-pants and matching vest, Underwood brought her fans at LP Field to their feet, even asking them to get sassy before jumping into the song, “Undo It.”

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Carrie Underwood remembers when she first performed to thousands of country fans at the coveted Country Music Association’s Music Festival

in Nashville, Tennessee.

It was June 2005, which is exactly 10 years ago this month.

Fresh off an “American Idol” win, Underwood said her first big Nashville stage

New driver without insurance is a road hazard to avoid

DEAR ABBY: My 17-year-old stepdaughter, “Audra,” got her driver’s license a few months ago and has started pressuring us to put her on our car insurance. When we told her we can’t afford it, and if she wants to be on the insurance she has to get a job and pay for it, she had a temper tantrum.

About a month ago, my husband wanted her to go to the store for him. We live in a rural area and everything is some distance away. After she left, he asked me if I was mad that he let her take the car. I told him I thought he was asking for trouble sending her out with no car insurance. He said, “But she wants to drive so badly.” My husband now wants me to let her take me shopping and bring along our two small kids.

If Audra gets into an accident, we could be sued for everything we have! No one is a great driver when they first start driving, but she is a beginner without insurance. I have considered calling the police and telling them she’s driving without insurance. What do I do?

NO INSURANCE IN NEW YORK

DEAR NO INSURANCE: Stick to your guns. It appears Audra has some growing up to do before she starts driving. If at the age of 17 she’s still having tantrums when she

doesn’t get her way, she’s not emotionally mature enough to be behind the wheel of a car. Your concerns about her getting into an accident are common sense. Transporting small children in a car driven by an uninsured, inexperienced driver is not advisable.

DEAR ABBY: I’m a 28-year-old gay man who recently graduated with a liberal arts degree. I have always struggled to support myself. I’m often discouraged because of professional and personal mistakes, which leads me to be pessimistic about my future.

I want to date. I know love isn’t going to be the save-all, but it would be nice to hang out with someone from time to time. My problem is, in the past men have been critical of my lack of success. They are often unimpressed with me. Successful men won’t date me. Yet I feel intellectually incompatible with the blue-collar guys I’ve been with.

I’d like to be able to have conversations about literature, film and maybe world events, but the men I’m drawn to are out of my league. Must I suck it up and take what I can get? Do you think that maybe if my life was in order, I’d have better luck with men?

DENVER PO’BOY

DEAR DENVER PO’BOY: I do. It appears that in addition

Bethesda kicks off E3 with ‘Doom,’ ‘Fallout 4’



AP
In this Dec. 10, 2011 file photo, Todd Howard, center, of Bethesda Game Studios, is joined by members of his team as he accepts the award for game of the year for “The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim” at Spike TV’s Video Game Awards in Culver City, Calif.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Bethesda jump started the Electronic Entertainment Expo by showing off the latest installments of “Doom” and “Fallout.”

The video game publisher launched this year’s annual video game extravaganza Sunday night with its first-ever E3 press conference at the Dolby Theatre.

The developer showcased scenes from a new edition of the hellish first-person shooter “Doom” and the post-apocalyptic role-playing saga “Fallout 4.”

“Fallout 4” director Todd Howard says the game will be released Nov. 10. “Doom” is set for spring 2016.

Bethesda also unveiled the strategy card game “The Elder Scrolls: Legends,” a follow-up to the stealthy title “Dishonored,” as well as new content for the multiplayer battle game “Battlecry” and the online role-playing game “The Elder Scrolls Online.”

E3 runs through Thursday at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

Benedict Cumberbatch and wife Sophie Hunter have baby boy

LONDON (AP)—Actor Benedict Cumberbatch and wife Sophie Hunter have become parents of a baby boy.

A spokesman said Saturday evening the couple is “delighted to announce the arrival of their beautiful son.”

The baby was born the day after the 38-year old actor was honored by Queen Elizabeth II

for his services to the performing arts and charity.

Cumberbatch was nominated for an Academy Award for his portrayal of computer genius Alan Turing in “The Imitation Game.” He is also known for his work on the “Sherlock” TV series.

He and Hunter married earlier this year. She is an actress and director.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



to self-esteem problems, you are drawn to men who are intellectual snobs. Intelligent, successful men -- and women -- are attracted to people who feel good about themselves and have interesting things to say. Because these individuals are often “targets,” they are not particularly drawn to people who might regard them as meal tickets.

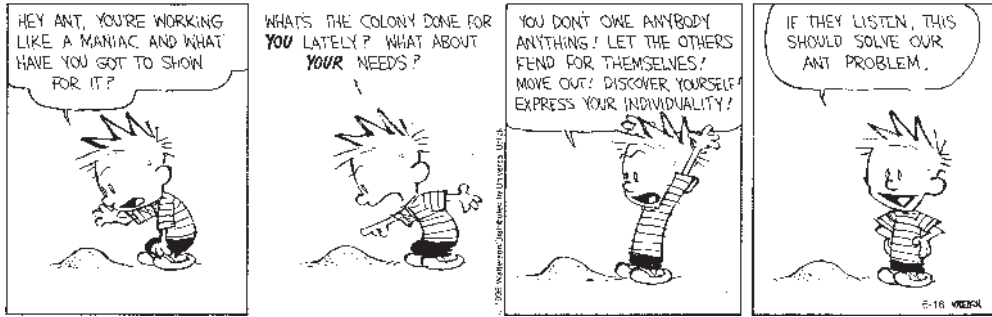
So by all means get your life in order. When you dwell less on your mistakes (we all make them) and think positive, your chances of finding friends like yourself will be better.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in “What Every Teen Should Know.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

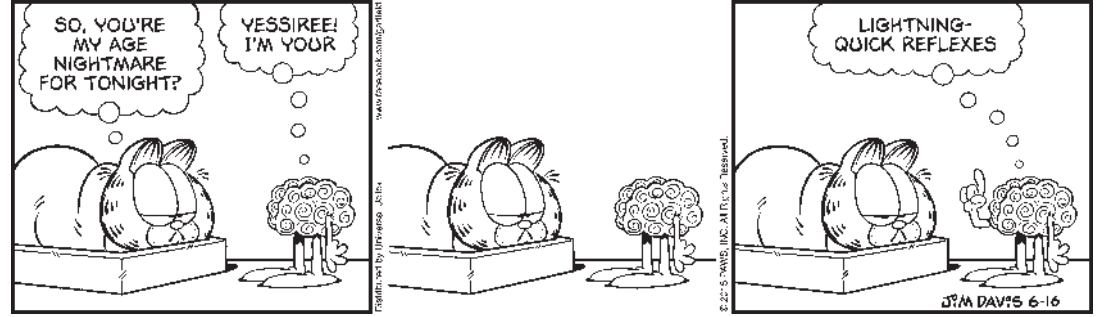
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 BLT enhancer
5 Miss. neighbor
8 "All —"
12 Vaccine type
13 Dog's doc
14 Some-where out there
15 Game birds
17 Ad-vanced math
18 Scot's refusal
19 Disen-cumber
20 Snap-shot
21 Auction action
22 Lustrous black
23 Liechten-stein's capital
26 Per-suaded
30 Sailor's greeting
31 Heathcliff, e.g.
32 "— Only Just Begun"

DOWN

33 She wrote
35 Under a spell
36 Big shot
37 Up to, briefly
38 Ricochet
41 Puke
42 Omega precursor
45 From the beginning
46 One who keeps late hours
48 Protuber-ance
49 Blond shade
50 Orsk's river
51 Carbon com-pound
52 Wager
53 Pleads
20 Corral
21 "Wheel of Fortune" option
22 Write in the margins
23 Actor Kilmer
24 "Eureka!"
25 Florist's qty.
26 Existed
27 Irritate
28 Previous night
29 Scarlet
31 Recipe measure
34 Edge
35 Lofty
37 Snug
38 Walking stick
39 In due time
40 Start over
41 Saga-cious
42 Skin opening
43 Booty
44 Troubles
46 Appre-hend
47 Place for a soak

Solution time: 22 mins.

B	B	C	R	E	X	T	R	E	E	
A	L	I	T	A	T	E	A	U	L	D
R	A	T	E	G	A	B	M	E	M	O
T	H	I	M	E	L	E	A	P		
P	E	A	C	L	A	S	P	S		
G	A	Z	E	L	L	E	I	F	N	O
I	K	E	A	A	W	E	L	O	K	I
N	I	T	R	O	E	M	P	O	W	E
S	N	A	I	I	S	U	A	R		
S	H	O	O	L	I	B	C	A	H	L
P	A	W	N	V	E	E	A	S	C	A
A	N	N	A	O	D	D	H	O	W	

Yesterday's answer 6-16

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Abby Elliott, 28; Eddie Cibrian, 42; Phil Mickelson, 45; Laurie Metcalf, 60.

Happy Birthday: Strategize and take action. Don't waste time when you need to be able to think quickly and make a decision on the spot. Regardless of what you do, changes will continue to unfold around you, making it important to react with precision and confidence. Let your charm and intelligence lead the way. Your numbers are 9, 14, 22, 26, 34, 42, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Take on a new mission. Head in a different direction and be open to meeting new people. The places you visit and the information you obtain will bring positive change to your personal life and surroundings. Love is highlighted. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Keep your life balanced. Too much of anything will lead to setbacks. Focus on achieving stability in domestic matters, and use common sense when it comes to affairs of the heart. Laziness and procrastination must not be allowed to take over. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't let compliments go to your head. You will get far more attention if you are humble and gracious. Love is in the stars, and making an offer to someone special will bring positive changes to the way you live. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Try something new or check out different cultural events in your area. Signing up to learn a new hobby or adding to your skill set will result

in meeting someone who inspires and motivates you to do more. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You have the insight, fortitude and energy to make things happen. A change at work will bring you greater opportunities. Don't put love on hold. Engage in romantic plans that will keep your personal life exciting and an important relationship fresh. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't trust others to be accommodating or even honest with you. Take matters into your own hands to ensure everything gets done to your specifications. A judgment call based on second-hand information will make you look bad. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A little effort will go a long way. A chance to get involved in something that you not only enjoy but can make a profit doing will be within reach. Your popularity will grow and your love life will improve. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Misinformation can turn into a costly expense. Go over personal paperwork carefully before you make a commitment that will tie up your cash. Too much of anything will turn into a fiasco. Keep life simple and be discreet. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): An investment will pay off. You can negotiate deals, sign contracts and make a commitment that will leave you in a good position. Partnerships look appealing and will change your life in a positive manner. Love is highlighted. ★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Changes going on around you will be to your detriment. Make a move personally or professionally if it will help you avoid a loss. Don't count on anyone but yourself to handle your responsibilities. Someone will feed you false information. ★★



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Use your imagination and be a participant. The more active you are both mentally and physically, the more you will accomplish. Put more in to important relationships and you will get just as much in return. Romance is heading your way. ★★



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't count on anyone but yourself. Disappointment will leave you feeling low. Emotional situations will be difficult to control. Concentrate on learning something new, not on trying to deal with an impossible situation. Treat yourself to something special. ★★



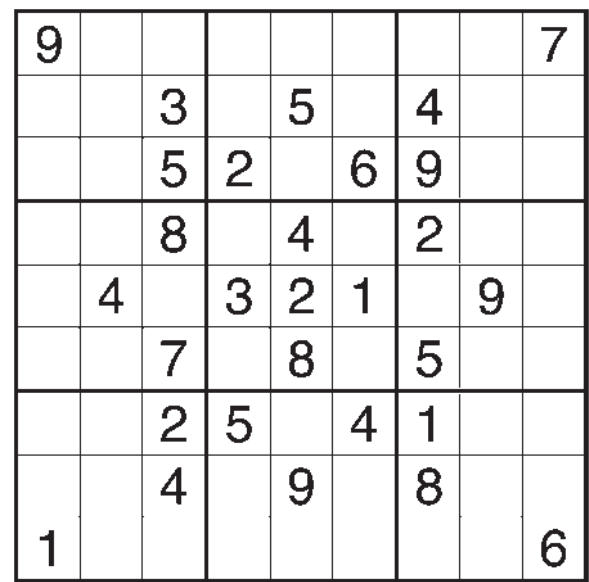
Birthday Baby: You are bright, articulate and unique. You are sensitive, giving and helpful.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

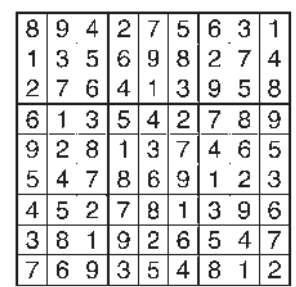


Difficulty Level ★★

6/16

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★

6/16

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

GETTING ON A PLANE

Solution: 9 letters



© 2015 Universal Jclick. www.wonderword.com. Join us on Facebook.

Airport, Aisle, Bags, Bank, Boarding, Brakes, Captain, Cargo, Chute, Clouds, Coach, Crew, Depart, Disembark, Door, Emergency, Engine, Exit, Flap, Fuel, Gate, Gauges, Gear, Landing, Layover, Nose, Passengers, Pilot, Plan, Propeller, Radio, Rows, Rudders, Runway, Sky, Slide, Speed, Stairs, Tail, Tarmac, Terminal, Ticket, Time, Travel, Wave, Wheels, Wings.

Yesterday's Answer: Bimmer

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42 or 43, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

(1) Operations Manager. Bachelor's degree and at least 5 yrs experience in construction industry required.

(1) Construction/Maintenance workers. Extensive knowledge in masonry, plumbing, electrical and carpentry work. Can read blue print and can work w/o supervision. Able to lift heavy blocks and flexible in work schedule. Send resume to PO Box 503317 Saipan or email to noel96950@yahoo.com. GMACorp.

2 Waiter/Waitress: \$6.05/hr. At least 2 years' experience required. Must be able to take orders in Korean, Chinese, and Japanese. Email resume to chinayanbian@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Cook (Korean cuisine): \$6.05/hr. At least 2 years' experience in Korean cuisine required. Email resume to kl@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Housekeeping Cleaner: At least 3 years' experience as housekeeping cleaner in hotel environment required.

1 General Maintenance Worker: At least 2 years' experience as general maintenance worker required.

Email resume to o2scuba@hanmisaipan.com.

Wanted – Commercial cleaner for diving business on Rota. Five years experience, high school diploma, 2 letters of recommendation from former employers and police clearance required. Minimum salary. Call 532-3423 for interview.

Tian Zi Corporation
Job Vacancy Announcement
Beautician
Rate: \$6.05/hour
Interested applicants, please call 235-5588

CLICK IT OR TICKET
DAY & NIGHT

Misamis Construction
Now Hiring

- (02) Construction Supervisors
- (20) Carpenters
- (20) Masons
- (10) Painters
- (10) Electricians
- (10) Steel Workers-Welders
- (10) Plumbers
- (04) Heavy Equipment Operators
- (10) Building Maintenance Repairers
- (02) Domestic Workers

Local applicants are encouraged to apply.
Please call 235-5238 or visit our office in Chalan Kanoa
Email: misamisconstruction@yahoo.com

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Fina Sisu Terraces
Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **\$250/month.**
2-BR, 1-BTH. **\$350-\$550/month.** Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.

Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$550/month**

LNH Apartments
(Lower Navy Hill)
Small 3BR & 2BTH. Unit approximately 600 sq.ft. EPA Solar Water Heater. **\$450/month**

Hilltop Condominium*
(San Vicente) Unit approximately 1,024sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 2BTH Apt with private balcony & majestic view. **\$700/month**
Luxury 1BR & 1BTH approximately 600 sq/ft **\$500/month**
***Wi-Fi & nighttime security excluded**

FEATURES:

- Fully Furnished
- Back-up Generator
- Air-conditioning in all rooms
- FREE WiFi
- Laundry Area
- Nighttime Security
- Ample Parking
- 24hr water

Please visit our website at www.saipan-properties.com
Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ELECTRICIAN (1) Min of 5yrs exp in electrical system installations. Plans layout and installs electrical wiring, equipment, or fixtures. Tests electrical systems or continuity of circuits using testing devices. Knows all types of electrical products to be able to sell where technical knowledge is required. Answers customers' questions about electrical products' functions and safety concerns. Receives inventories, arrange stocks and do other related duties. Salary commensurate with qualifications & exp.

ASSISTANT OFFICE MANAGER (1) Min of 5yrs exp in administrative and HR functions. Knowledgeable in Peachtree software. Prepares tax reports, permits, licenses, employees' immigration and corporate docs. Prepares and clears shipments at Customs. Prepares bank reconciliation, wire transfers requests, online transactions, and all other correspondences with vendors and customers. Represents the company before banks and government agencies. Bachelor degree. Salary commensurate with qualifications & exp.

Send resume to hongeei@pticom.com
HONG ELECTRIC ENTERPRISES, INC.

Office of the Mayor
Municipality of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 501457 Saipan, MP 96950 • Ladera Center Building, Beach Road
Tel: (670) 234-6208 • Fax: (670) 234-1190

INVITATION TO BID
(ITB NO. 15-001)

Pursuant to Municipal Ordinance No. 55, codified at 6 Saipan Municipal Code (SMC) 31, Chapter 4, the Honorable David M. Apatang, Mayor, Municipality of Saipan, is issuing this Notice of Invitation to Bid for the operation of a sole bingo license in the Municipality of Saipan. The term of the sole bingo license shall be for a period of one year from the date it is issued. 6 SMC § 25.

The minimum bid for the sole bingo license shall be United States Dollars \$1,000.00. 6 SMC § 33 (2). (Minimum bid). The successful bidder must pay the bid amount no later than twenty-four hours following bid award.

A non-refundable bid fee of USD\$100.00 must accompany each bid. Bids received without the non-refundable bid fee shall be rejected and shall not be considered. The bid fee must be in the form of United States Currency, United States Postal Express Money Order, or Bank Cashier's Check. Checks must be made payable to the "Commonwealth Treasury" and have the notation "For Deposit to Business Unit 3067." The bid fee is non-refundable. Personal or business checks will not be accepted.

A bid must be submitted on a Bid Application Form. A Bid Application Form is available at the Office of the Mayor of Saipan, second floor in the Ladera Center Building, on Beach Road in Oleia, Saipan. Interested bidders may pick up a form during regular government working hours, i.e., 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday, except on government holidays. Any bid submitted on a form other than that provided by the Office of the Mayor of Saipan will be rejected and not considered.

A bid must be sealed and submitted to the Office of the Mayor of Saipan at the above-stated address, no later than 3:30 p.m. on June 24, 2015. No bids will be accepted after 3:30 p.m. on June 24, 2015. All bids will be publicly opened and announced at 10:00 a.m. on June 25, 2015, at the Office of the Mayor of Saipan, at the above-stated physical address. All dates and time indicated on this ITB are CNMI local dates and time.

The Office of the Mayor of Saipan reserves the right to reject any and all bids if to do so is in the best interest of the Municipality of Saipan.

A bidder must be a U.S. citizen, must possess a current CNMI business license, possess a CNMI-issued tax identification number, must have current CNMI mailing and physical address, must be able to provide proof of no criminal conviction, must be able to provide documents of incorporation in the CNMI, including the documents listed in this paragraph, etc.

For information, please visit the Office of the Mayor of Saipan or call 234-6208 during regular government working hours, i.e., 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday, except on government holidays.

/s/David M. Apatang
Mayor, Municipality of Saipan

WHATZIT Solution: No time to lose

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

Toulouse

WHATZIT? © 2015 www.whatz.it.com
Designed by JF neural Design

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

TAGA Sports is now on issuu.com/tagasports!

Check out the latest issue and back issues of TAGA Sports, the CNMI's first and premier sports magazine, on issuu.com/tagasports!

Now you won't have to miss a copy of TAGA Sports. Visit issuu.com/tagasports to get your fix on all sports happenings in the CNMI!

To inquire about ad rates or to place an ad, call (670) 235-2440, 235-6397, 235-8747

Warriors withstand LeBron, take 3-2 lead vs Cavs



OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—

Stephen Curry came off a screen, dribbled behind his back and crossed over Matthew Dellavedova. He stepped back and swished a 3-pointer, then pounded his chest and pointed to the roof, seemingly controlling the sellout crowd of 19,596 on his fingertips.

One more win and the MVP will really have a moment to celebrate.

Curry made seven 3-pointers and scored 37 points, and the Warriors withstood another brilliant performance from LeBron James to outlast the Cleveland Cavaliers 104-91 on Sunday night for a 3-2 lead in the NBA Finals.

"It was a fun moment, but it will only mean something - and I'll probably have a better for that question after we win that championship - but signature moments only come for players who are holding the trophy," said Curry, who also had seven rebounds and four assists before being treated for dehydration.

Curry was spotted rubbing his head and leaning over in a hallway after the game. The Warriors said Curry was receiving fluids in the locker room, watching highlights and should be fine.

With a sellout crowd rocking and roaring in their golden-yellow shirts, Curry and his teammates took control of the game—and possibly the series—in the final minutes. Curry connected inside and out—sometimes way out—to help the Warriors pull away and get in a position they haven't been in 40 years.

The Warriors will try to win their first title since 1975 on Tuesday night in Cleveland, which hasn't won a major sports championship in 51 years. Game 7, if necessary, would be in Oakland on Friday night.

"I feel confident because I'm the best player in the world," said James, who has carried Cleveland as much as he could.

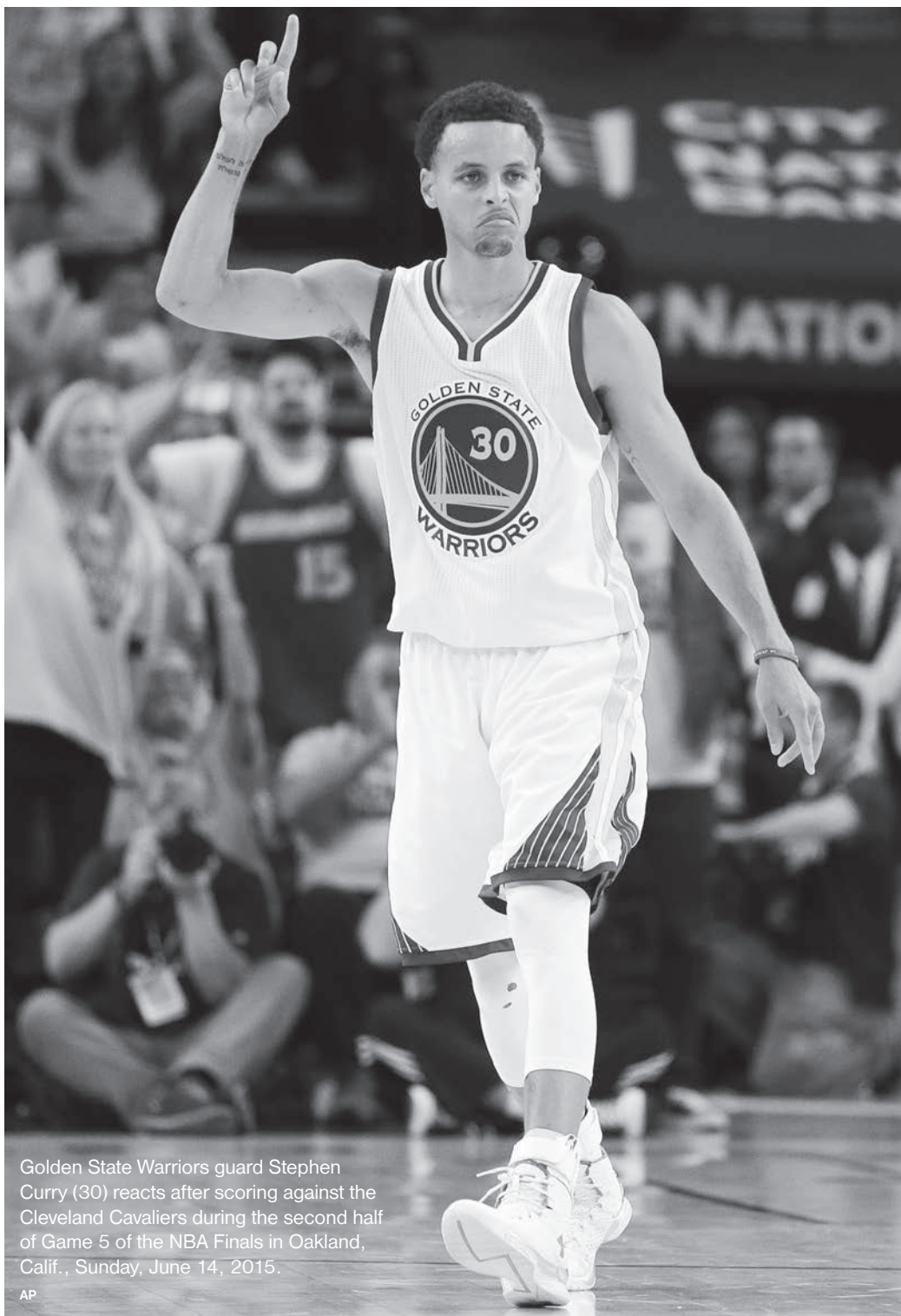
The four-time MVP had 40 points, 14 rebounds and 11 assists, slowing down the pace the way only he can. He made 15 of 34 shots in 44 minutes.

It was James' second triple-double of this series. But the depleted Cavs, without injured starters Kyrie Irving and Kevin Love, tired again late with a rotation that has gone just seven or eight deep.

"He has the ball in his hands a lot. Stick with the program. Don't get discouraged if he makes shots. He's going to," Curry said of James. "Over the course of 48 minutes, we hope we wear him down to make it very tough on him."

Draymond Green had 16 points and nine rebounds, Andre Iguodala added 14 points, eight rebounds and seven assists, and reserve Leandro Barbosa scored 13 points for the deep and talented Warriors.

Tristan Thompson tallied 19 points and 10 rebounds, and J.R.



Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry (30) reacts after scoring against the Cleveland Cavaliers during the second half of Game 5 of the NBA Finals in Oakland, Calif., Sunday, June 14, 2015.

AP

Smith scored all 14 of his points in the first half for Cleveland, which shot 39.5 percent and had

no answer for Curry late.

"Not a lot you can do, honestly. He made some terrific shots,"

Cavs coach David Blatt said.

Under the current 2-2-1-1-1 schedule format, the winner of

Game 5 in a 2-2 series has won the title 12 of 14 times. But nobody can feel too comfortable after this one.

There were 20 lead changes and 10 ties in a game that featured nearly as many bruises as baskets - but few big men - and the league's two biggest attractions trading thrilling scores.

James made a 34-footer with the shot clock about to expire midway through the fourth to cut the Warriors' lead to 80-79. Curry answered with a step-back 3-pointer and Klay Thompson, who scored 12, followed with another.

Iguodala later hit a 3 and then grabbed a rebound, tossing in a left-handed put back while getting fouled by Tristan Thompson. Iguodala strutted back to midcourt, staring at the crowd—just about all of them on their feet through the fourth—before missing the free throw.

Curry added a cutting layup, then lost Dellavedova off the dribble and stepped back for a 3 that gave Golden State a 96-86 lead with 2:44 left.

"It was an incredible play and I enjoyed watching it from my front-row seat," Green said.

James hit a 3-pointer, and the Cavs began fouling Iguodala—a sub-par free throw shooter. But Curry never let the game get out of his hands, connecting on another 3-pointer with 1:12 remaining, sending fans into a frenzy and teammates running to give him hugs and high-fives.

"We didn't let the moment slip," Curry said.

James said the Cavs are content with the way they defended Curry.

"Was any of them not contested?" James said. "Falling, step-backs off the dribble. I'm OK with that. We're OK with

that. You tip your hat to the best shooter in the league."

Kerr stuck with the small-ball lineup he used to help the Warriors win Game 4, starting swingman Iguodala over center Andrew Bogut. Blatt replaced 7-footer Timofey Mozgov with the streaky shooting Smith—sliding James to center—after Cleveland fell behind 8-2 in the opening minutes.

"I thought from the very beginning when they went small, had their shooters out there, I thought this is Steph's night," Kerr said. "This is going to be a big one for him because he has all that room. He took over the game down the stretch and was fantastic."

Both teams lacked size. Neither lacked fight.

Smith made four of his first seven 3-pointers before going cold, but landed his biggest shot when he extended his right forearm and shoulder to plow through Green's screen, knocking the Warriors forward to the ground. Officials called a flagrant 1 foul on Smith after a review.

Dellavedova dragged Green down going for a rebound in the second quarter, and the officials assessed double fouls after the players got tangled up on the floor. James Jones also grabbed Iguodala with two arms from behind on a layup attempt, which the Warriors argued should've been a flagrant foul.

The physical first half ended with Harrison Barnes putting back Curry's miss for a dunk over James to start a three-point play that put the Warriors up 51-50. James scored or assisted on 16 of Cleveland's 17 field goals in the half.

"We didn't turn it over, we were patient," Klay Thompson said. "And two words: Stephen Curry."

SIDEBAR

MVP effort not enough, but LeBron isn't conceding

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—LeBron James soaked his tired feet in an ice bath, had ice wrapped around both knees and his back as he sat smiling in Cleveland's locker room after a second straight loss in the NBA Finals.

While the Cavaliers' chances at winning it all are dwindling, James' confidence is not.

"I feel confident because I'm the best player in the world," he said. "It's that simple."

It just hasn't been enough for a depleted Cavaliers team against the much deeper Golden State Warriors.

James had 40 points, 14 rebounds and 11 assists in the second highest scoring triple-double in finals history but the Cavaliers lost 104-91 to the Warriors on Sunday night to fall behind 3-2 in the series.

James had more points, rebounds or assists than anybody on either team. He played center, point guard and every-

where in between. The only thing James couldn't quite do was will the Cleveland Cavaliers to a victory in Game 5 of the NBA Finals.

Despite the stellar night, James said he could still do more, citing a couple of offensive rebounds he allowed, some blown defensive assignments and turnovers.

"I don't put a ceiling on what I'm capable of doing," he said. "I know I'm shouldering a lot of the burden, but it is what it is."

James is now running out of time to find enough help to lead Cleveland to its first major sports title in 51 years. Game 6 will be Tuesday night in Cleveland with the series set to return to Oakland on Friday if a seventh game is needed.

"We've got enough to win it," James said. "We protect home we come here. We'll worry about Tuesday first. But if we protect home like we're capable of doing, we force a Game 7."

With All-Stars Kyrie Irving and Kevin Love and fellow starter Anderson Varejao sidelined by injuries, James has been a one-man band this series. He is averaging 36.6 points, 12.4 rebounds and 8.8 assists through five games. He had 39 points in a triple-double in a Game 2 win and backed that up with another brilliant performance Sunday.

Only Jerry West in 1969 has scored more points in a triple-double in finals history with 42. West was also the only member of a losing team to win finals MVP, a club that James might soon join the way this series is headed.

"LeBron has been tremendous is even an understatement for how he's played in the series," coach David Blatt said. "He had another one of those days today. Under the current set of circumstances, that's what we've got to get, and he's bringing it. You don't see that

every day, what he's doing."

James' night could be summed up in one stretch of the fourth quarter. James gave the Cavs their last lead of the game with a long 3-pointer that made it 80-79 with 7:47 to go.

But MVP Stephen Curry answered with an even longer 3 for the 20th lead change of the game and Klay Thompson followed a miss by James with another 3 that put the Warriors up by five with a lead they would never relinquish.

James got some early help from J.R. Smith, who hit four 3-pointers in the first half before turning cold once again and making no baskets in the final 33 minutes.

"We kept going to him," James said. "He just missed some shots. He came out aggressive, which we wanted him to do. We kept finding him. He started off well, he just cooled down. It's just a make or miss league."

Tristan Thompson provided a

lift in the second half but Game 4 star Timofey Mozgov was limited to less than 10 minutes as both teams went to small lineups and no one else stepped up.

Mozgov's absence helped Golden State win the rebounding battle, including five offensive rebounds in the fourth quarter.

"It's definitely deflating to our defense," Thompson said. "They take some tough shots that you don't see too often, so we've got to find our man, box him out."

At one point, James scored or assisted on 17 straight baskets made by Cleveland in a stretch of 22:35 that started early in the first quarter and went all the way past halftime. Many of those baskets came when James was playing center as both Thompson and Mozgov sat.

Matthew Dellavedova made the only two baskets up to that point that James wasn't involved in but didn't hit another all game.

Scherzer misses no-no, but sets record 16 strikeouts



MILWAUKEE (AP)—

Max Scherzer struck out a Nationals-record 16 and pitched a one-hitter, losing his perfect-game bid on a bloop single that barely fell in during the seventh inning to lead Washington to a 4-0 win over the Milwaukee Brewers on Sunday.

Carlos Gomez got Milwaukee's only hit, leading off the seventh with a broken-bat loop to right field just beyond the outstretched glove of second baseman Anthony Rendon. Scherzer looked the other way after the ball dropped.

After losing his last two starts, Scherzer (7-5) rebounded with the most overpowering game of his career, which includes a Cy Young Award, two All-Star selections and a lot of strikeouts. In the first season of a \$210 million, seven-year contract, Scherzer got his second complete game in his 211th career start.

Scherzer set a career high for strikeouts and broke the Washington mark of 14 set by Stephen Strasburg.

The Nationals scored two runs off rookie Taylor Jungmann (1-1), who labored through five innings in his second career start. Clint Robinson added a two-run double with two outs in the seventh off Jeremy Jeffress.

Blue Jays 13, Red Sox 5

In Boston, the Toronto Blue Jays won their 11th straight game to tie the team record, routing Boston as Ryan Goins homered, doubled and drove in five runs.

Danny Valencia also homered as the highest-scoring club in the majors completed a sweep at Fenway Park and sent Boston to its season-worst sixth straight loss.

This is the fourth time Toronto has won 11 in a row, most recently in 2013. The Blue Jays can set the team mark Monday night when they visit the New York Mets.

Pirates 1, Phillies 0, 11 innings

In Pittsburgh, Josh Harrison singled home Neil Walker with two outs in the 11th to lift Pittsburgh.

Walker singled off Jonathan Papelbon (1-1) to start the late rally. Jose Tabata reached when Philadelphia shortstop Freddy Galvis threw a routine grounder into the stands. Harrison followed with a crisp shot up the



Washington Nationals starting pitcher Max Scherzer is congratulated by catcher Jose Lobaton after a baseball game against the Milwaukee Brewers Sunday, June 14, 2015, in Milwaukee. Scherzer threw a complete game one-hitter as the Nationals won, 4-0.

middle as the Pirates won their fourth straight.

Antonio Bastardo (2-1) picked up the win with an inning of scoreless relief. The Pirates have swept six series this season, the most of any team in the majors.

Diamondbacks 4, Giants 0

In San Francisco, Rubby De La Rosa took an eight-hitter into the ninth, and Arizona chased Chris Heston after five innings in his first start coming off a no-hitter.

Heston pitched his gem against the New York Mets on Tuesday in his 13th major league start. His shot at matching Johnny Vander Meer's record of throwing consecutives no-hitters in 1938 ended with one out in the second when Jake Lamb doubled.

Rays 2, White Sox 1

In St. Petersburg, Asdrubal Cabrera hit a two-run homer off Chris Sale in the seventh inning, helping Tampa Bay complete a three-game sweep.

Sale (6-3) struck out 12 over

6 2/3 innings to become the first pitcher since Boston's Pedro Martinez in 2001 to strikeout 12 or more in four straight starts. The left-allowed two runs and three hits during a 125-pitch outing.

Yankees 5, Orioles 3

In Baltimore, John Ryan Murphy had the Yankees' only hit in a three-run fifth inning, helping salvage the finale of a three-game series.

Mark Teixeira drove in a run and scored one to help the first-place Yankees end Baltimore's six-game winning streak.

New York starter Adam Warren was pulled with two outs in the fifth and replaced by Chasen Shreve (3-1), who went 1 1/3 innings. Dellin Betances, filling in for injured closer Andrew Miller, worked around a walk in the ninth for his third save.

Rockies 4, Marlins 1

In Miami, Jorge De La Rosa became Colorado's career leader in victories, pitching seven innings to prevent a four-game sweep.

Charlie Blackmon and Nolan Arenado homered to give the

Rockies a 3-0 lead in the first inning. That was one more run than they totaled while losing first three games of the series.

De La Rosa (4-2) allowed four hits and one run to lower his ERA to 4.91. He improved to 73-47 with the Rockies, surpassing Aaron Cook, who went 72-68 for Colorado.

Mets 10, Braves 8

In New York, Juan Lagares hit a go-ahead homer and the Mets used a surprising power surge to rally from five runs down for their biggest comeback victory of the season.

Darrell Ceciliani launched his first major league home run, and Dilson Herrera also had a solo shot in the fourth inning. Travis d'Arnaud's two-run drive off reliever Brandon Cunniff trimmed the deficit to 8-7 in the fifth, and New York took its first lead in the sixth.

Tigers 8, Indians 1

In Detroit, Miguel Cabrera once again tagged Corey Kluber and the Indians, hitting a booming home run to lead Detroit.

Cabrera hit his 14th homer, a solo drive in the fourth inning that went an estimated 450 feet into the left edge of the batter's eye. It landed close to the 452-footer he hit Friday night.

The two-time AL MVP is 20 for 35 with five homers in his career against Kluber (3-8). The reigning Cy Young Award winner lost his third straight decision.

Cubs 2, Reds 1, 11 innings

In Chicago, Starlin Castro drove in the winning run for the second straight night with an RBI single in the 11th inning to lift the Cubs.

Chris Coghlan doubled just out of the reach of left fielder Kristopher Negron with out in the 11th inning and scored the winning run on Castro's single to left-center off reliever Burke Badenhop (0-2).

Chicago took three of four in this series.

Castro's RBI single in the ninth gave the Cubs the win Saturday night.

Astros 13, Mariners 0

In Houston, rookie Lance Mc-

Cullers and four relievers combined for a two-hitter and Evan Gattis tied a career high with four hits, as Houston cruised past Seattle.

McCullers (3-1) struck out four and didn't allow a hit through five, but he needed 90 pitches to get through those innings because of four walks. He was replaced by Tony Sipp for the sixth inning and Austin Jackson doubled with one out in the inning.

Joe Thatcher allowed one hit in the seventh, Will Harris threw a perfect eighth and Josh Fields completed the shutout.

Twins 4, Rangers 3

In Arlington, Byron Buxton went 0 for 4 in his major league debut, but scored the winning run in the ninth inning to lift Minnesota.

Buxton reached on a fielder's choice and scored from first base one out later on Eddie Rosario's double to center.

Casey Fien (2-2) pitched two scoreless innings and Glen Perkins pitched a perfect ninth for his American League-leading 22nd save as the Twins snapped a five-game losing streak.

Athletics 8, Angels 1

In Anaheim, Sonny Gray lowered his ERA to a major league-best 1.60 with 7 2/3 impressive innings to lead Oakland.

Eric Sogard drove in three runs and the A's capitalized on three errors.

Gray (8-3) yielded an unearned run and five hits, struck out nine and did not walk a batter. The right-hander has issued only nine walks in his last eight starts after giving up career-high seven on May 3 at Texas.

Gray is 5-1 with a 2.22 ERA in eight career starts against the Angels, including back-to-back wins in April.

Dodgers 4, Padres 2, 12 innings

In San Diego, Adrian Gonzalez had a two-run single with two outs in the 12th inning, lifting Los Angeles past San Diego.

Alberto Callaspo opened the 12th with a double, then Kike Hernandez and Joc Pederson walked. Gonzalez followed with his 12th and 13th RBIs in 12 games against his former team this season.

Josh Ravin (2-0) worked two innings for the win. Kenley Jansen pitched the 12th for his ninth save in 10 chances.

Neymar leads Brazil to late win over Peru in Copa America



CHILE (AP)—With big-name countries falling left and right over the first two days of Copa America, Neymar stood tall and made sure it didn't happen to Brazil.

Neymar scored early and set up the winning goal in stoppage time as Brazil escaped

Peru 2-1 on Sunday in Temuco, Chile, and rose to the top of Group C, where it shares the lead with Venezuela after the opening round of matches.

Venezuela stunned continental power Colombia earlier on Sunday, while tournament favorites Argentina couldn't hold a two-goal lead against Paraguay on Saturday and wound up with a draw.

Peru was gunning for a similar upset on Sunday, and an early gift from Brazil made it a real possibility. Running toward his own net, David Luiz tapped an ill-advised pass to goalkeeper Jefferson, whose lazy clearance toward Dani Alves was intercepted by Christian Cuevas.

The Peruvian midfielder made no mistake.

The lead was short-lived,

however, as Alves lobbed an enticing cross into the box, where Neymar had somehow found himself completely unmarked.

Neymar's header settled Brazil back down, but maybe too much. The Seleção couldn't capitalize on any of their chances, while Peru offered plenty going forward to scare them.

With a draw looking the most likely outcome, Neymar drove toward the net one last time down the left flank. After pulling back and taking two touches to the inside, he played Douglas Costa through the opposite side of the box with a picture-perfect pass.

Thanks to Neymar's heroics, Brazil avoided becoming the latest big-name Copa America

team to suffer a setback in its opening match. Neymar even picked up a silly yellow card for brushing aside some of the referee's vanishing spray before a free kick.

There's no question Dunga's side must be better in its next match on Wednesday against Colombia, which will be fighting for its tournament life after Sunday's loss.

Stewart, Berger rule 'Silver Streak'

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Jack Stewart and veteran Mamiko Berger ruled the 22nd Annual Tom Picarro Memorial Fun Run held early Saturday morning with the start and finish line in front of T Galleria.

Stewart and Berger bested 71 other runners that joined the 22nd edition of the annual "Silver Streak" fun run, held in honor of former president Tom Picarro of the then known DFS Galleria.

Stewart completed the 7-kilometer run at a blistering pace of 25:44, just five seconds short of Jess James' time last year (25:39) while Berger clocked in at 26:21 or 2:28 faster than Lorie Hutchison's 28:49 time recorded also in 2014.

Youngster Sam Ryu led the division winners when he topped the boys U12, while middle and long distance runner Seiya Eda ruled the 13-19 age group.

Owen Ji and Tiffany Lin clinched the male and female 20-30 divisions, while Ed Ewing and Jennifer Cui were the best runners in the 31-40 age group.



Stewart



Berger

Taro Goto and Sakiko Eda (male and female 41-50), Cesar Danao and Beth Kohnen (male and female 51-60), and Chang Whan Jang and Suzy Kindel (61-and-up) were the other 7K age division winners.

Gary Bandoja and Claire S. Devey clinched the male and female 3K division crowns with times of 13:46 and 14:02, respectively.

Carlo Diaz and Haani Seman were the fastest boys and girls U12 runners, while Robbie Schorr and Angel Marie Tan duplicated their feat in the 13-19 age category.

Weilly Brena and Olivia Chan won the male and female 20-30 divisions, while Aldrin Sta. Ana and Ana Marie Manansala were the best male and female runners in the 31-40 age groups.

Ernie Moises and Grace Cruz (male and female 41-50), Rufo Caspillo and Tess Masga (male and female 51-60), and Jeff Schorr (Over- 61) were the other winners.

All division winners received T Galleria gift items like watches, perfumes, and bags. Raffle prizes were also given away.

Darties seal Bud Light Cup top seeding

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The Sand Juvy Vicious Darties formalized their top ranking in the Ladies division of the Bud Light-Saipan Electronic Darts Association Winter/Spring 2015 after winning last week at the Garapan bar.

The Vicious Darties were ahead entering the final two weeks in their division and sealed the title victory along with the top seeding in the Bud Light Cup after a 9-6 decision over the Jokers Kitty Kats.

The Vicious Darties ended the regular season with a 124-101 win-loss record, followed by the Abyss Certified Pasawayz (113-112), Sand Juvy Try Luck (108-117), and the Kitty Kats (105-120) in the four-team standings.

The Darties were still playing the Pasawayz at the start of the Bud Light Cup Ladies division yesterday with the winner advancing to next week's finals. The Kitty Kats and Try Luck form the other half of the semis match.

In the other match, the Pasawayz completed a 9-6 drubbing of Try Luck.

Meanwhile, the A division will have one week more before a champion is crowned. Route 33 Mafia leads the bunch with a 175-97 slate following a 10-7 trouncing of the second-running Smoke Pub Voyagers (162-110).

The Smoke Pub Huntlaw (121-151) tripped the Sand Juvy Sakude (121-151), 13-4, while the Sand Juvy Snipers (177-155) escaped with a 9-6 win over the Naked Fish Ridin' Darty (159-113), and the Sand Juvy Predators (152-120) and sister team 101 Proofers (144-128) scored 11-6 triumphs against the Jokers Warriors (119-153) and No Fear (90-182) in the other A division matches.

The complete results from last week's games were as follows:

Bud Light Cup

Masters

- Kyodai 8, Darryt 5
- Killaz 8, No Fear 4

Fanihi

- Latte Sparts 8, Shooters 7
- Sunrisers 8, Preba Darts 3

Masters

- Destroyers 9, Chelu's 4
- Shoot Balut 9, Darting Chelu's 4

Tuesday B

- Atarashi Boyz 8, Pasaways 2
- Like It OR Not, 8-6

Chichirika

- Darty Flights 8, Tokers 0

Kingfisher

- Spartans 8, Dart Knights 0
- Hafa Mas 8, Se-Ricks 3

Lizama, Tudela are SGA June, May Aces

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Juan Lizama and Alex Tudela earned spots to the season-ending Saipan Golfers Association Ace of Aces Tournament after topping separate monthly events held in different venues.

Lizama clinched the June Ace after shooting 41s at the front and back of Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort's east course for an 82 aggregate last Sunday. His 16 handicap gave him a net score of 66 for a one-shot victory over Juan

"Nani" Cruz's 67 (85, 18 handicap).

Nick C. Sablan (77, 5 handicap); Tudela (80, 8 handicap); and Jung Eun Teack (83, 11 handicap) all ended with 72s, but the former won third place after the scorecard tiebreak. Tudela finished fourth, while Jung came in at fifth.

Steve Balakrishna led the closest to the pin winners at No. 4, while Rick Kautz and Mariano Fajardo claimed Nos. 6 and 11, and Sablan hole No. 10. Kautz also had the longest drive at No. 10, while Jung and Tudela eagled the par-4 No. 5.

Larry Deleon Guerrero, in last week's May Ace at the Marianas Country Club

in Marpi, topped the event after a 71 net. He tallied 91 (47 and 44) and his 20 handicap gave him the winning score.

There was a three-way tie for second place with Tudela matching Attorney General Edward Manibusan and Tony Deleon Guerrero's 72 and a scorecard playoff at the par-4 No. 9 determined the runner-up.

Manibusan and Tudela saved par the 1-handicap hole to advance at the par-3 No. 11 after Deleon Guerrero double bogeyed. The former clinched runner-up honors after he birdied No. 11, while Tudela parred the hole.

But with Deleon Guerrero being the

March Ace and Manibusan winning the inaugural monthly tournament last January, Tudela automatically became the SGA May Ace. Cruz was the February Ace, while Jung earned the April monthly crown.

Manibusan had the longest drives at No. 2 and 11 in the May tournament, while the closest to the pins winners were Greg Sablan (No. 6), James Nelson (No. 8), and Tony Deleon Gueerero (Nos. 12 and 16).

Meanwhile, SGA will hold its July Ace on July 19 at the Kingfisher Golf Links with tee time to be announced at a later date.

CNMI

From Page 28

Coume gave the Commonwealth bets their third win in the division after beating Guam's Kaia Malakooti, 6-0, 6-0. Maria Gregoire completes the CNMI girls U12 team and dropped a tough game against the No. 1-ranked Anne Skilling of FSM, 5-7, 3-6.

In the girls U14 singles, Isabel Heras and Ami Tsukagoshi both took the

short route to victories in Day 1. The top-ranked Heras hammered Guam's Nozomi Yamasawa, 6-1, 6-0, in Pool A, while the second-seeded Tsukagoshi outclassed FSM's Chriselda Esau, 6-2, 6-4, in Pool B.

In the boys division, the debuting Seung Jin Paik had the most impressive record in Day 1, going 2-0 in Pool B of the U12 division. He got his first win over FSM's Deavyn Etscheit, 6-1, 6-2, and followed with up with an equally-

notable 6-1, 6-0 triumph over Palau's Jonah Tilei Ziegler. Ji Min Woo joined Paik in Pool B and also needed only two sets to down Guam's Dakota Gibson, 6-2, 6-2.

In Pool A, Rintaro Miyawaki had a split, losing first to top seed Andrew Leng of Guam, 0-6, 0-6, before bouncing back with a win against teammate and fourth-ranked Sean Lee, 6-4, 6-3. Lee went 0-2 in Day 1 as he earlier fell to FSM's Jerson Freddy, 4-6, 6-2, 10-7.

In the boys U14 singles, top-ranked Robbie Schorr, Ken Song, and Vincent Tudela won their opening games. Schorr was pitted against fellow CNMI player Haruya Eda in Pool A and bagged a 6-1, 6-2 win, while Song and Tudela defeated teammate Steven Goodwin, 6-4, 6-0, and Guam's Aaron Abrams, 6-0, 6-1, respectively. Goodwin absorbed his second loss in Pool C after bowing to FSM's Sterkis Abraham, 4-6, 5-7.

BOOM

From Page 28

"I was ready to go all the rounds against him if I had to, but things like that happen. My opponent was tough, strong, and 'spazzy.' But I didn't expect him to be unprofessional like that," Alvarez said.

"I thought I was in control of the fight up until the time when he managed to flip me over. I'm still okay in fighting in that situation, fighting off my back, because of my jujitsu skills," he added.

Alvarez said he would be back to training since there's a possibility that he would be fighting again in July.

"PXC put me in the next card and I'll be back 10 times stronger. Thank you to my family and friends for the love and support they continue to give me," said Alvarez.

Roman's cousins Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez and "Shiska" Bob Alvarez, and Ken "Kamakazi" Tanzawa were at

his corner during fight night.

Before topping Braca, Alvarez was coming off a first-round knockout win over Guam's Rob "The Real Deal" Wusstig, needing only 26 seconds to dispatch his opponent and clinch the featherweight belt in last year's Trench Tech 18: Rock & Rumble.

SSC

From Page 28

ing 9 points apiece in each event. In the 25m freestyle, which he also ruled, the 9-year-old timed in at 16.39 seconds.

Six other male SSC members entered the tournament held last Thursday and Friday with Kento's younger brother Taiyo placing fifth out of the 26 participants in the men's division, Jinnosuke's older sibling Lennosuke finishing 10th, and Salofi Welch, R.J. Pierce, and David Boyer notching the No. 13, 16, and 21st spot, respectively. SSC Coach Jacoby

Winkfield was the seventh member of the men's squad, as he joined two races.

Taiyo got 48 points for winning the men's 10-and-under 50m freestyle (36.25 seconds), 50m backstroke (47.97 seconds), and 50m breaststroke (52.84 seconds) and ranking second in the 100m freestyle (1:23.06), 200m IM(3:37.35) and 50m butterfly (42.16 seconds). He also came in at second in the 25m freestyle (16.55 seconds).

Lennosuke bagged 33 points for swimming in the men's 11 and over 800m freestyle (10:26.54), 400m freestyle (5:00.06), 100m freestyle

(1:05.69), 100m breaststroke (1:28.82), 200m freestyle (2:24.00), 50m breaststroke (41.37 seconds) and 100m butterfly (1:21.41). In the 25m freestyle, he clocked in at 14.17 seconds.

Welch, Pierce, and Boyer also participated in the races for 11 and over age group and gained 23, 15, and 11 points respectively. Welch did the 800m freestyle (11:33.75), 100m backstroke (1:27.78), 100m freestyle (1:07.28), 50m freestyle (29.97 seconds), 100m breaststroke (1:27.81), 200m freestyle (2:38.22), 25m freestyle (13.47 seconds), and 100m butterfly (1:26.25).

Pierce swam in the 800m freestyle (11:52.10), 100m freestyle (1:20.53), 100m breaststroke (1:42.41), 100m IM (1:33.94), 50m freestyle (36.91 seconds), 200 freestyle (2:53.00), and 25m freestyle (16.58 seconds). Boyer also had seven events: 400m IM (6:53.48), 100m freestyle (1:10.07), 200m IM (3:10.50), 50m butterfly (36.88 seconds), 50m freestyle (32.97 seconds), 200m freestyle (2:42.66), 25 freestyle (14.06 seconds), and 100m butterfly (1:33.82), while Winkfield raced in the 50m butterfly (31.69 seconds) and 25 freestyle (12.97 seconds).

In the women's division, Chentsova totaled 51 points to join Aulea's Cameron Lyon (61) and Abbey Mitchell (56) in the Top 3. Seventeen other female swimmers competed in the inaugural tournament.

Chentsova, who returned to Saipan with the rest of the team last Saturday, had first place finishes in the 100m freestyle (1:07.50) and 200m backstroke (2:50.97). She also competed in the 800m freestyle (10:34.19), 400m freestyle (5:06.85), 100m backstroke (1:20.79), 50m freestyle (31.09 seconds), 200m freestyle (2:29.22), and 25m freestyle (15.95 seconds).

Tsunami Saipan at 2015 Guam Championships

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan members pose for a group photo after the awards ceremony for the 2015 Guam Championships held late last month at the Hagatna Pool.



Boys 15 to 16 champion Kaito Yanai, center, is joined by teammate and third placer Takumi Sugie and runner-up and Manhoben Swim Club's Tommy Imazu.



Runner-up Sophia Gauran, left, and Aika Watanabe, right, join Tsunami Guam's Roxanne Mikel on the podium during the high-point awards ceremony for the girls 11 to 12 age group.



Kaito Yanai, fifth left, waits for the start of the 400m freestyle race.



Xans Xu poses with his boys U8 first place medal.



Nanaka Watanabe, center, leads the high-point awardees in the girls 9 to 10 division.



Sophia Gauran, second left, is on her way down for the 100m freestyle event.



Tsunami Saipan swimmers and staff wait for the next event.



Mark Maestro, left, makes it to the podium after finishing second in the boys 13 to 14 age group.



Second placer Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero, left, and teammate Juhn Tenorio, right, pose with boys 9 to 10 champion Chuckie White of Tsunami Guam.



**Warriors withstand
LeBron, take 3-2
lead vs Cavs**

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports

**Scherzer
misses no-no,
but sets record
16 strikeouts**

PAGE 25



28 TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2015

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CNMI jr. players off to strong start

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Junior Tennis Team put on a strong showing in the opening day of the ITF North Pacific Regional Championships 2015.

Defending U14 singles champion and top seed Tania Tan led the Commonwealth's impressive performance in yesterday's opener as she blanked Guam's Alyssa Merletti, 6-0, 6-0, on Court 2 of the Rick Ninete Tennis Center in Hagatna.



Tan is in Pool A of her division and is joined by teammate and No. 4 seed Asia Raulerson, who

also took only two sets to win her opening day match against the Federated States of Micronesia's Tatiana Panuelo, 6-0, 6-1.

The CNMI made it a 4-0 in the girls U14 singles, as the second-ranked Malika Miyawaki and third-seeded Mimi Sakano also prevailed in their first matches in Pool B. Miyawaki dominated FSM's Isabel Garcia, 6-1, 6-1, while Sakano also pounded Guam's Jocelyn Tenai, 6-0, 6-0.

In other results in the girls singles, the CNMI got a 3-1 record in the U12 division. In Pool A, Conatsu Kaga and Erika Tuttle swept their respective foes with the former whipping FSM's Paris Panuelo, 6-0, 6-0, and the latter crushing another FSM bet in Chelsea Panuelo, 6-1, 6-0. Conatsu's younger sister

**See CNMI on
Page 26**



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Vincent Tudela goes for a backhand return to Isabel Heras during a scrimmage last Thursday at the Pacific Islands Club tennis court.

'Boom' wins after PH foe gets DQ

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Roman "Boom" Alvarez kept his unbeaten record after Filipino bet Ernie Braca was

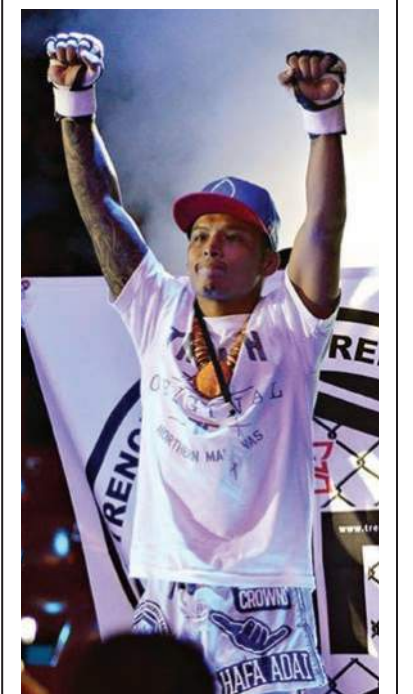
disqualified following an illegal kick in the undercard bout in the Pacific X-treme Combat 48 last Saturday at the Ynares Sports Arena in Pasig City, Philippines.

Alvarez improved to an immaculate 8-0 record and 3-0 inside the PXC cage, while Iloilo Combat Sports fighter Braca dropped his second straight match after winning his mixed martial arts debut by technical knockout against compatriot Rendel Camensi in the Universal Reality Combat Championship Bacolod Brawl in 2011.

"I won via disqualification. He kicked me on my head while I was on the ground. Although, I didn't win the fight like how I wanted, a win is still a win. I didn't ask my opponent to kick my head," said Alvarez, who arrived on Saipan early Monday morning.

Braca landed that illegal kick to Alvarez's head with still 2:44 left in the first round.

See BOOM on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Roman "Boom" Alvarez earned his eighth straight win after Filipino bet Ernie Braca got disqualified following an illegal kick in their undercard bout in last Saturday's Pacific X-treme Combat 48 at the Ynares Sports Arena in Pasig City, Philippines.

SSC swimmers bring home trophies from Palau

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Three Saipan Swim Club swimmers came home with trophies

from last week's 1st Annual Palau Invitational held at the Meyuns National Swimming Pool.

Kento Akimaru and Jinnosuke Suzuki finished second and third in the men's division, while Victoria Chentsova was ranked third in the women's race. Rankings were based on total points swimmers earned from the various events they completed at the 25-meter pool.

Kento collected 56 points from the eight of the nine races he joined in to finish just two points behind cham-



PALAU SWIMMING PHOTO

The CNMI's Victoria Chentsova, right, joins Hawaii's Aulea Swim Club's Lyon Cameron, left, and Abbey Mitchell for a group photo during the awards ceremony for the 1st Annual Palau Invitational held at the Meyuns National Swimming Pool last Friday.

pion Noah Faurot of Aulea Swim Club (Hawaii). The 14-year-old swimmer placed first in the men's 11 and over's 100m breaststroke (1:20.98) and 200m backstroke (2:34.61) and runner-up in the 400m individual medley (5:27.05), 800m freestyle (9:41.59), 400m freestyle (4:41.37), 200m freestyle (2:12.85), and 100m butterfly (1:12.89). Kento also participated in the 100m freestyle (1:01.46) and the exhibition (no points awarded) 25m freestyle (13.12 seconds).

Jinnosuke joined Kento and Faurot in the Top 3 after getting 54 points from six of his seven events in the men's 10-and-under division. Jinnosuke topped the 100m freestyle (1:15.15), 200m IM (3:08.91), 50m butterfly (40.15), 100m IM (1:30.62), 100m butterfly (1:31.16), and 200m freestyle (2:39.17), notch-

See SSC on Page 26